



Give-It-a-Go
Unit 1, Bible Truth 1 Core Curriculum
SAMPLE MATERIALS



Curriculum for preschool and elementary age children,
training tools, music and other resources
are available for download or to order at:
www.praisefactory.org

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This and many other resources are available online at www.praisefactory.org

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About the “Give-It-A-Go” Materials

Hello, New Friend to Praise Factory Investigators!

If you have gotten this far, chances are you are looking fairly seriously at this curriculum. Rather than having you download or purchase the full versions of the curriculum, I’ve put together this bundle of materials that will give you a chance to really understand it and to try it out.

This packet is a sort of “mini me” of resources available for each unit of Praise Factory Investigators.

Included in this packet:

1. Black and White pdf of The Praise Factory Tour: Extended Version

(The color version is a huge document that would take a very long time to download). This book is your guide to understanding the curriculum basics. You can also order it through amazon in color or watch the slideshow in the Get Started section of the praisefactory.org website. But sometime, you just want something to get your hands on now! So here it is!

2. Give-It-A-Go Introductory Materials for Praise Factory Investigators

This is basically the introduction and selected appendices that is included in every volume of Praise Factory Investigators Core Curriculum. We are giving it to you here, separately, because you will be referring back and forth from it to the curriculum a lot. It will be much easier for you to follow along if it’s in a separate booklet of its own.

3. Give-It-A-Go Praise Factory Investigators Core Curriculum for Unit 1, Bible Truth 1--ESV (Excerpt from Praise Factory Investigators Core Curriculum ESV Unit 1)

The regular volume includes all five Bible Truths for unit 1--that’s 15 sessions of materials and more than you need if you are only in the test-drive stage. This sample book will provide you will all three sessions of materials used with Bible Truth 1.

4. Give-It-A-Go Praise Factory Investigators Prontos for Unit 1, Bible Truth 1--ESV (Excerpt from Praise Factory Investigators Prontos for Unit 1--ESV)

These are your rather beefy take home sheets. They include the text of each story, lyrics to two songs, an ACTS prayer and some questions to answer. These give your parents lots to use with their children at home. Some teachers like to teach from the Prontos. The regular volume includes the Prontos for all of Unit 1. This sample includes the three Prontos for the three stories used in Unit 1, Bible Truth 1.

5. Give-It-A-Go Praise Factory Investigators Songs for Unit 1, Bible Truth 1 (Excerpt from Praise Factory Investigators Unit 1 ESV Songbook)

The large-format lyrics, the sign language and sheet music for all the songs used in Unit 1, Bible Truth 1. The full songbook contains all of the songs used in Unit 1.

6. Give-It-A-Go Praise Factory Investigators audio music files for PFI Unit 1 ESV Songs

Enjoy!

Getting Started with Praise Factory Investigators

Get It



Order the **Praise Factory Tour: Extended Version** (or follow along on the website in the Tour section). It is going to be your easiest, most visual way to learn about this curriculum. Order/download the **Praise Factory Investigators ESV or NIV Unit Core Curriculum, Praise Factory Investigators ESV or NIV Unit Songbook, and the Praise Factory Investigators ESV or NIV Unit Prontos**, for Unit 1, or whichever unit you want to do.

Tour It....Three Times

1

1. Read through the whole Praise Factory Tour book once.

Learn how the Praise Factory family of curriculum is related to each other. Pay special attention to the section on Praise Factory Investigators.

2

2. Go back and read through just the section on Praise Factory Investigators in the Tour book again.

3

3. Now go back and read the Praise Factory Investigators section of the Tour book a third time, only this time, get out your curriculum books: Praise Factory Investigators ESV or NIV Unit Core Curriculum, Praise Factory Investigators ESV or NIV Unit Songbook, and the Praise Factory Investigators ESV or NIV Unit Prontos and follow along.

This will help see how the curriculum flows and where to find each of the resources visualized in the Tour Book.

Take Note



A few things to notice about the curriculum:

1. The resources for every Bible Truth **always include the same set of resources and are always presented in the same order.** Get to know the resources of one Bible Truth and you know them for all.

2. There is one Bible verse, but three stories for each Bible Truth: **an Old Testament, a New Testament, and a Church History/Missions story.**

3. The Unit Core Curriculum has **almost** everything your teachers will use in the classroom.

Notice that there is only lesson plan used for all three lessons for each Bible Truth. That's because the basic Bible truths are the same. Stories, questions, and activities for each lesson are different, of course. These difference are clearly noted, as you can see if you look through the lesson plan.

4. The Songbooks are more than just books of lyrics and sheet music for the unit. They also **contain the sign language signs that the songs activities use.**

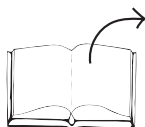
5. The Prontos are **designed to be the take home sheets for each lesson.** However, **some people like to teach from it.** It has the Bible Truth and Bible verse, the story text, a few questions, the lyrics to the songs, and an ACTS prayer. If you download a couple activities from the website, then you have all you need for a basic teaching session...in a much smaller package.

Choose What You'll Use



Not everyone will want or will need or will be able to do all of the curriculum, as written. So much depends upon your kids, your teachers, your space, your time and your teaching goals. There are a ton of activities and pretty much no one, except our church (CHBC for whom this curriculum is written) does all of the activities. This means you need to think about what fits you best. Ideas for how to choose what to use for various situations are included in the "More Details" section of this chapter.

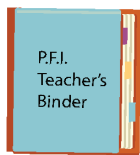
Ready to Rip?



Chances are, you will be making copies of the curriculum for your teachers. You may want to keep your books intact and photocopy right from the book. However, if you are using a lot of activities and distributing them to a number of teachers, you may find it easier to take the resources out of the book completely and copying them that way. This will save you a lot of time. Just make sure to clip your originals together with a binder clip to get them in good shape and ready for you next time you use them. **Or, you may just want to print your copies from the download version of the curriculum. All resources (except the lesson plans and the stories) can accessed this way.**

Getting Started with Praise Factory Investigators, continued

Bind It So They Can Find It



Once you've chosen what you want to use, make copies and put them in binders. Separate each lesson's materials with labeled tab dividers so that the teachers will be able to find the resources they need for each session. We like to put a few extra aids in the binder in the back: such as classroom management tips; what our teachers should do if they need a substitute teacher; and, where to find certain supplies they will need.

Download It



Download the **zip file of unit songs** from the website. A pdf of the track numbers is also included.

Make It... Before You Get Started



There is a set of resources you will be glad you made ahead of time: the games! The Praise Factory Investigators curriculum is a very active curriculum, with a number of different games suggested each lesson. The good news is that they are used in a rotation throughout the curriculum. That means, once you make these games, you store them and use them over and over (and for years to come!).

While you only need to make whatever games you choose to use with each lesson, **I would highly suggest you make all the games before you start using the curriculum and then storing them.** Get the prep work over with at the beginning and coast your way through years of enjoyment!

Store them in ziploc bags or baskets and pull them out when needed. So simple! Your teachers will love how easy it is to have an engaging learning session with so little work for them to do! And happy teachers are repeat teachers! **A full list of the games and the supplies needed to make them can be found in the "More Details" section of this chapter or in the Praise Factory Investigators Curriculum section online.**

Protect and Store It



This is a curriculum that keeps on giving, year after year. If you do a good job of storing the curriculum it will serve your church well and at little cost for many years. We store the resources for each unit in **manila envelopes and magazine storage boxes.**

Learn More



There are many more resources online that may help you customize the curriculum to fit your learning situation. These are listed online in the Praise Factory Resources section, as well as in the Getting Started Section.

Two you might especially want to look at are:

- **From the Ground Up** (Making a Great Start in Children's Ministry and with the Praise Factory Family of Curriculum)--(you've got this already. That's this book!)
- **Classroom Management Suggestions for Elementary School Age Children**

These are available for download or to order through amazon.com

See It in Action

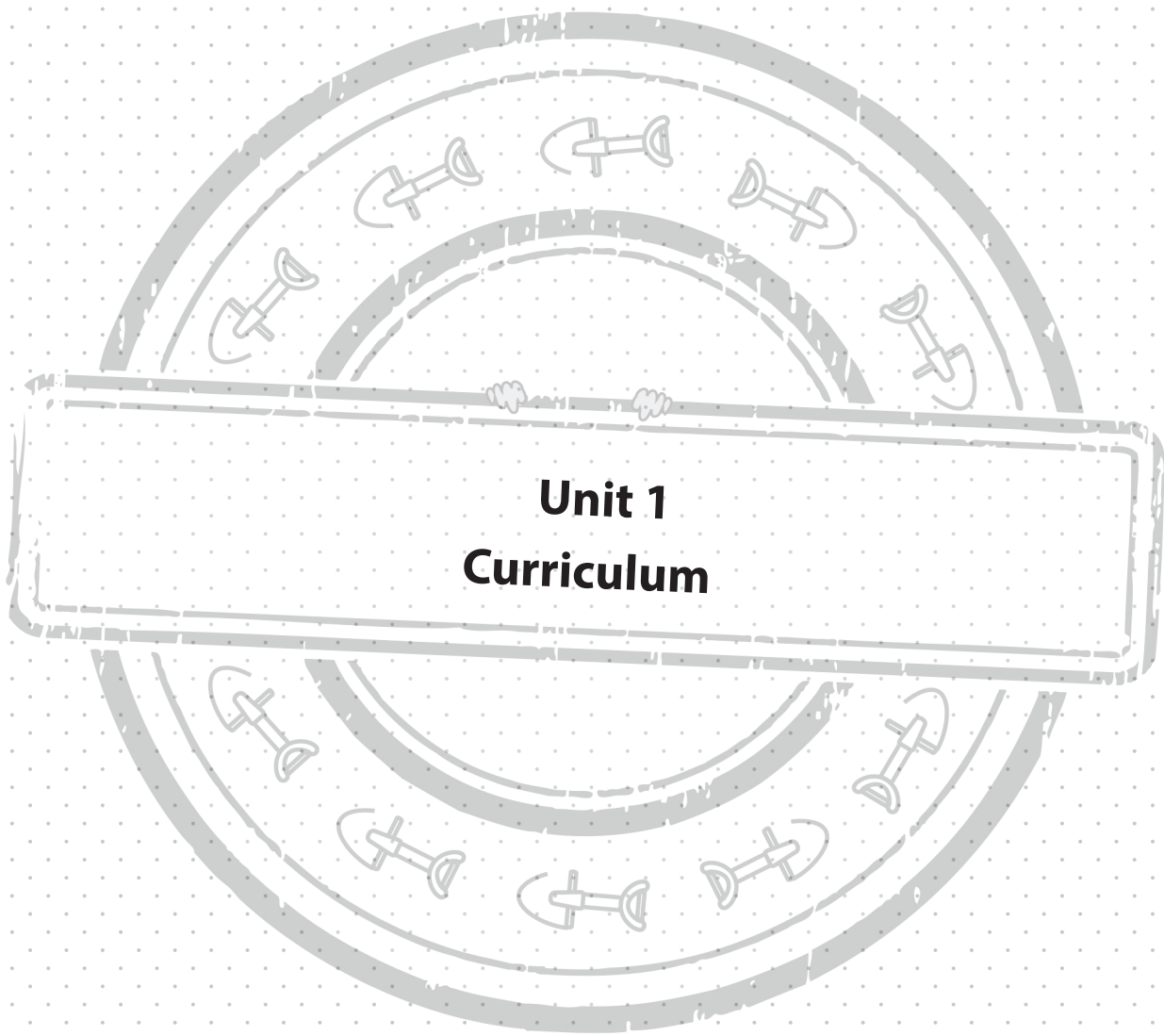


visit us in
Washington,
D.C.

Three times a year (the third Saturday/Sunday of March, May and September), we hold a **free lunch, learn-and-look workshop and observation time here at Capitol Hill Baptist Church in Washington, D.C.**

On the Saturday, we gather for lunch and talk philosophy, child protection policy, encouraging parents, dealing with discipline issues, etc. and, of course, curriculum. After finishing up our group session, we are happy to talk to individual churches about their particular situation.

Then, on Sunday, we offer an opportunity to see Praise Factory Investigators as well as the other Praise Factory curriculum in action in our classes. The registration form for these workshops can be found on the Praise Factory website.



Session Prep (especially good for newbies!)

Pray!



Pray for the Holy Spirit to be at work in your heart and in the children's hearts.

Review



1. If new to the curriculum, look at the previous **Getting Started with Praise Factory Investigators section** (p.11 in each Core Curriculum book). It will be especially helpful to read through the Praise Factory Investigators section of **The Praise Factory Tour: Extended Version Book**. This will be a visual way to understand what goes on in the classroom.
2. Notice that there is only lesson plan used for all three lessons for each Bible Truth. That's because the basic Bible truths are the same. Stories, questions, and activities for each lesson are different, of course. These difference are clearly noted, as you can see if you look through the lesson plan.
3. Flip through the resources for a particular Bible Truth. The resources offered for every Bible Truth are always the same and they are always ordered in the same order.

Look through and Learn the Lesson



Read over **lesson plan**. Learn the flow of the lesson. Read through the key concepts. You might want to look at the Bible Truth Discussion Sheet, found with each session's activities. It takes the Bible Truth concept and breaks it down into discussion question format. Some of the questions and answers might be helpful to have in your head before teaching the concept to the children.

Let There Be Music



Download the music and listen to the songs. Choose which of the songs you will use with the children. Practice the sign language, if you are using it. If using live musicians, make sure they have the sheet music from the Praise Factory Investigators Unit songbook.

You've Got a Story to Tell!



1. Read the Bible verses and the story, itself. Pray!
2. Create story cue cards on index cards (or highlight text).
3. Practice telling story dramatically, timing your presentation. Shorten, if necessary to fit your allotted time.
4. Decorate area with story props that help bring your story alive.

Prepare Any Activities



Choose the activities you want to use. Bear in mind your time frame as well as the developmental abilities and attention span of your children as you decide what/how many to prepare. Look over the Discussion Question Sheet that goes with each activity. Choose a few questions you might use to spark discussion with the children. Prepare any craft, snack or game for your class.

Let Them Take It with Them



Make copies of the take home sheet.

Store It



After your session is over, collect the resources and store them for future use. This curriculum can be used over and over for years to come.

UNIT 1: THE GOD WHO REVEALS HIMSELF

UNIT OVERVIEW

God made us. He wants us to know what He is like so we can know Him, love Him, and praise Him. God shows us what He is like. How? By the heart He gave us to know and love Him; through everything He's made that we see around us; through His Word, the Bible; and most of all, through His very own Son, Jesus Christ.

In this unit we will learn five ways God does this.

UNIT BIBLE VERSE: Amos 4:13 ESV

"For behold, He who forms the mountains, creates the wind and declares His thoughts to man. The LORD, the God of Hosts, is His name."

BIG QUESTION UNDER INVESTIGATION: How Do I Know What God Is Like?

ANSWER: He Shows Me What He's Like...

BIBLE TRUTH 1: God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him

The Case of the Stone and the Seekers *Acts 17 NT*

The Case of the Prayerless Man *Story of the Saints*

The Case of the Man After God's Heart *Ps. 19, 23, 24, 62; 1 Chr. 29; 2 Sam. 5-6, 15 OT*

Bible Verse: Psalm 63:1, 3, 5 ESV

BIBLE TRUTH 2: God's Creations Tell Us about Him

The Case of the Speaking Rain *1 Kings 17:1-18:46 OT*

The Case of the Chilly Camouflage *Story of the Saints*

The Case of the Mysterious Messengers *Acts 14:8-23 NT*

Bible Verse: Psalm 8:1, 3-4 ESV

BIBLE TRUTH 3: God Spoke to His People through Prophets Long Ago

The Case of the Warned Wicked *1 Kings 21 OT*

The Case of the Doctor and the Drummer Boy *Story of the Saints*

The Case of the Wilderness Wild Man *Matthew 3, 14; Mark 1, 6; Luke 3, 9; John 1 NT*

Bible Verse: Deuteronomy 18:18-19 HCSB

BIBLE TRUTH 4: God Speaks through His Word, the Bible

The Case of the Burning Hearts *Luke 24:13-35 NT*

The Case of the Ragged Bible *Story of the Saints*

The Case of the Forgotten Book *Deuteronomy 4, 5, 27-30, 34; Jeremiah 1-2, 4, 11, 25, 36 OT*

Bible Verse: Psalm 119:18, 72-73 ESV

BIBLE TRUTH 5: God Has Revealed Himself Most Completely through His Son, Jesus

The Case of the Lips of Life or Death *John 10:22-33, 39-42 NT*

The Case of the Not-Good-Enough Man *Story of the Saints*

The Case of the Great Revealing *Daniel 9; Matthew 2:1-12 OT*

Bible Verse: Hebrews 1:1-3 ESV

PFI ESV SONGS 1 TRACK NUMBERS

This is a listing of all songs mentioned in the unit curriculum. You may or may not choose to use all of the songs. They are listed in easy-reference order--NOT in the order used in the curriculum.

You may choose to simply burn a CD/load them onto an mp3 device in this order. Or, you may want to do what we do: choose the songs we want to use and create a playlist of them in that order. Then, we burn a CD/upload the playlist onto an mp3 device. A teacher only has to click forward to the next song, instead of hunting for the right track. The track number have been included as part of the title of each song, teachers will still have a reference to the track number listed in the curriculum (same as those listed below), even if you change the order on your customized playlist.

- 1 PFI Theme Song
- 2 WoGoLOA Rules Song

Why the Extra Songs?

PFI is a curriculum used by a wide age-span of kids. Sometimes one of the other songs is a better fit for your kids. Or, you may simply want to teach them more songs on the same Bible Truth. Use as many or as few as you want.

UNIT 1: THE GOD WHO REVEALS HIMSELF

- 3 Big Q & A 1 Song
- 4 Big Question 1 Song: How Can I Know What God Is Like?
- 5 Unit 1 Bible Verse: The LORD Declares Amos 4:13, ESV
- 6 Extra Unit 1 Bible Verse: He Who Declares His Thought Amos 4:13, ESV
- 7 Extra Unit 1 Bible Verse: He Who Forms the Mountains Amos 4:13, ESV
- 8 Extra Bible Verse Song: Behold Amos 4:13, ESV
- 9 Extra Bible Verse Song: For Behold Amos 4:13, ESV

Bible Truth 1: God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him

- 10 Hymn: Be Thou My Vision, v.1
- 11 Hymn: Be Thou My Vision, v.2
- 12 Bible Verse: O God, You Are My God Psalm 63:1,5 ESV
- 13 Extra Bible Verse: You Are My God Psalm 63:1,5 ESV
- 14 Extra Bible Verse: As the Deer Psalm 42:1-2, HCSB

Bible Truth 2: God's Creations Tell Us about Him

- 15 Hymn: O Worship the King, v.3
- 16 Bible Verse: O LORD, Our Lord Psalm 8:1,3-4, ESV
- 17 Extra Bible Verse: The Heavens Declare Psalm 19:1-4, ESV

Bible Truth 3: God Spoke to His People through Prophets Long Ago

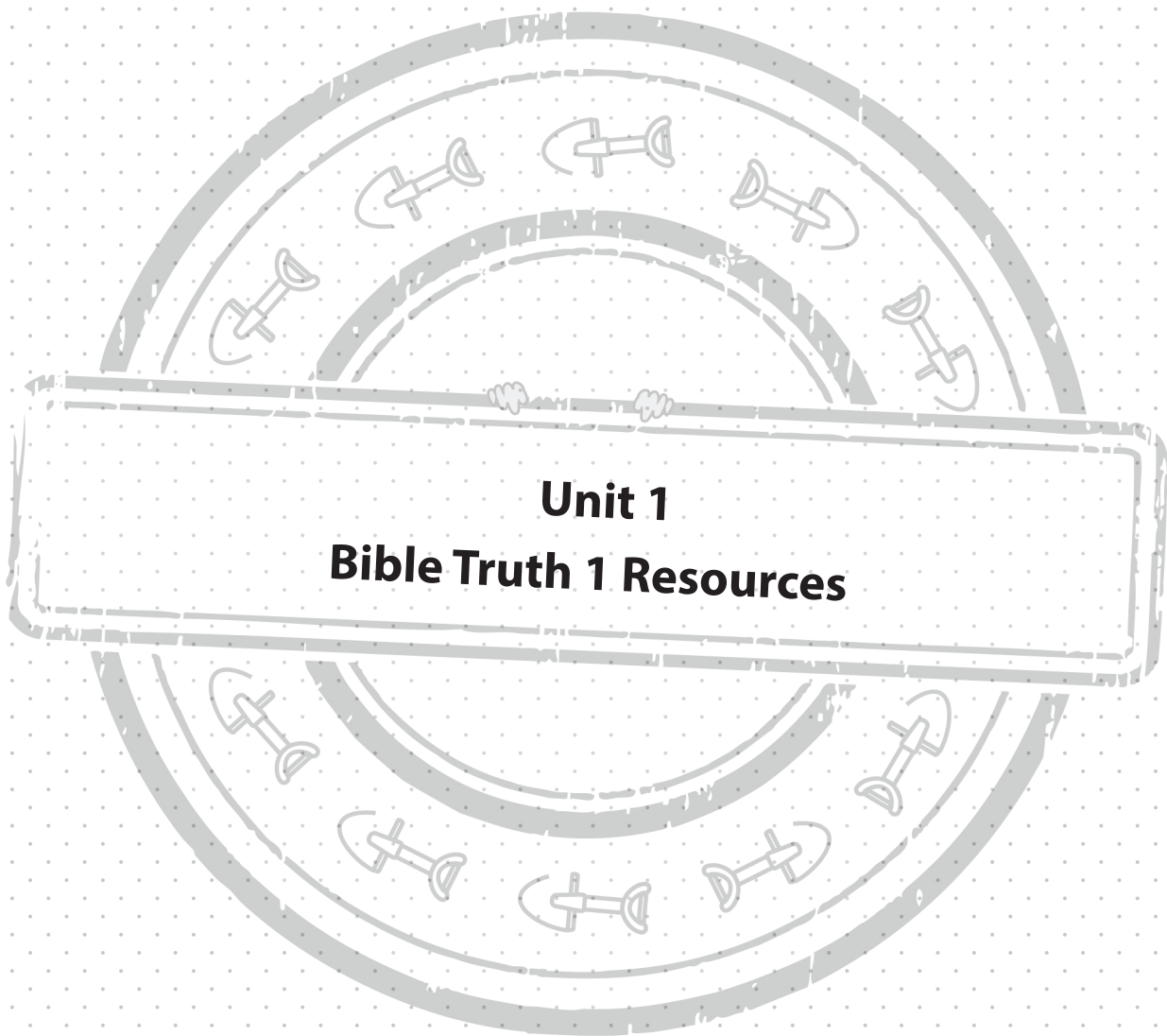
- 18 Hymn: The God of Abraham Praise, v.2
- 19 Bible Verse: I Will Raise Up Deuteronomy 18:18-19, HCSB

Bible Truth 4: God Speaks through His Word, the Bible

- 20 Hymn: Amazing Grace, v.4
- 21 Bible Verse: Open My Eyes Psalm 119:18,72-73, ESV

Bible Truth 5: God Reveals Himself Most Completely through His Son, Jesus

- 22 Hymn: O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing, v.1
- 23 Bible Verse: The Son is the Radiance Hebrews 1:3, ESV
- 24 Extra Bible Verse: Whoever Has Seen Me John 14:9, ESV



BIBLE TRUTH 1 OVERVIEW

UNIT 1: The God Who Reveals Himself

Big Question and Answer: "How Can I Know What God Is Like? He Shows Me What He's Like!"

Bible Verse: "For behold, He who formed the mountains, creates the winds, and declares to man what is His thought. The LORD, the God of hosts, is His name." Amos 4:13 ESV

Bible Truth 1 Concept: God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him

When God created people, He made them with a special heart so they could know and love Him. This isn't the heart that pumps blood through our body. This is something very different. We can't feel this heart inside of us in the same way as we feel the heart that beats in our chest. This heart is even more amazing! THIS heart will never die--it lives forever!

The Bible also calls this heart, a spirit or a soul. And it's in this very special heart that God reveals Himself to us. God's Holy Spirit works in our heart, helping us to believe in God, turn away from our sins and to trust in Jesus as our Savior. When we do, God will work in our heart even more, making it brand new, and filling it with knowledge of Him and with more love for Him and others.

Bible Truth 1 Bible Verse

Meditation Version: Psalm 63:1, 5

"O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water...My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food, and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips."

Alternate Memory Version: Psalm 63:1

"O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you."

Bible Truth 1 ACTS Prayer

- A** God, we praise You for being a God we can know. We praise You for being our Maker who wants us to know and love You.
- C** God, we confess that we don't seek You as we should, even though You made us to know You. We're sinners! We need a Savior!
- T** Thank You, God for making us to know and love You. Thank You for helping us to know and love You--even when we don't seek You! Thank You for sending Your Holy Spirit to work in our hearts and for sending Jesus to save us.
- S** God, help us to know You better and help others to know You better, too. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Send Your Holy Spirit to work in our heart that we might know, love and obey You, more and more.

Bible Truth 1 Stories

Lesson 1: The Case of the Stone and the Seekers (New Testament)

Acts 17

Lesson 2: The Case of the Prayerless Man (Story of the Saints)

Lesson 3: The Case of the Man After God's Heart (Old Testament)

Psalm 19, 23, 24, 62; 1 Chronicles 29; 2 Samuel 5-6, 15

1. GETTING STARTED: Welcome and Opening Songs (*introduce unit and get kids moving with these songs*)

Welcome	<p>"Welcome to Praise Factory. We're so glad you've joined us! Here at the PFI, we're investigators. (That's what the "I" stands for!) Investigators look for answers to questions. In PFI, we look for answers to big questions about God. We dig deep down in the truths of God's Word to find them."</p>
Praise Factory Theme Song	<p>"Let's sing our Praise Factory Investigator's theme song."</p> <p>PFI: Praise Factory Investigators <i>PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 1</i></p> <p>We're PFI: Praise Factory Investigators, Diggin' deep down for truths in God's Word, That's PFI: Praise Factory Investigators, Diggin' deep down for truths in God's Word, We're looking for answers to very big questions, Big questions about God, If you're looking for answers to very big questions 'bout God, come along, Join PFI: Praise Factory Investigators, Diggin' deep down for truths in God's Word, That's PFI: Praise Factory Investigators, Diggin' deep down for truths in God's Word. Deep down, diggin' down, Let's go diggin' down, Deep down, diggin' down, 'Til answers to all our Big Questions we've found. We're PFI: Praise Factory Investigators, Diggin' deep down for truths in God's Word, That's PFI: Praise Factory Investigators, Diggin' deep down for truths in God's Word.</p>
Classroom Rules Song	<p>An important part of Praise Factory is helping us worship God and love one another. Our WoGoLOA song reminds us how we should act. Let's sing it."</p> <p>WoGoLOA Rules Song <i>PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 2</i></p> <p>Refrain: WoGoLOA means "Worship God and love one another," WoGoLOA means "Worship God and love one another."</p> <p>WoGo means "Worship God." Sound off, 1,2,3, Joyfully take part, Listen to others, Obey your teachers. (<i>Refrain</i>)</p> <p>LOA means "Love One Another." Sound off, 1,2,3, Be kind, Be encouraging, Help others, help others. (<i>Refrain twice</i>)</p>

1. GETTING STARTED, continued

Opening Prayer	"Let's ask God to help us obey these rules, and to help us worship Him and love one another as we learn more about Him today. Let's pray." <i>Pray.</i>	
Big Question Under Investigation:	<p>"Now it's time to turn to today's Big Question Under Investigation.</p> <p>It's: How Can I Know What God Is Like?</p> <p>"God made us. He wants us to know what He's like so we can know Him, enjoy Him, love Him and glorify Him. We don't have to figure out what God is like by ourselves. We couldn't do that. So God shows us what He's like.</p> <p>So the answer to our Big Question, 'How Can I Know What God Is Like?' is: God Shows Me What He's Like!</p>	
Big Question 1 and Songs	<p>"Let's sing our Big Question Song(s):</p> <p>Big Q & A 1 Song <i>(adapted version of "This Is the Way We Wash Our Clothes")</i> How can I know what God is like, God is like, God is like? How can I know what God is like? He shows me what He's like!</p> <p>Big Question 1 Song: How Can I Know What God Is Like? I have a very big question, A big question 'bout God. I have a very big question, It's Big Question Number One, I wanna know...</p> <p><i>Refrain:</i> How can I know what God is like? How can I know what God is like? How can I know what God is like? He shows me what He's like!</p> <p>Verse 1: He gave me a heart to know God, He made everything I see. Big tall mountains, galloping horses, Every little bird and bee. Everybody sing... <i>(Refrain)</i></p> <p>Verse 2: He gave us the Bible, His Word, To learn of His mighty deeds, But most of all, through Jesus, His Son, God shows Himself to me. Everybody sing.... <i>(Refrain)</i></p>	<p><i>choose one or both</i></p> <p><i>PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 3</i></p> <p><i>PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 4</i></p>

1. GETTING STARTED, continued**Unit 1
Bible Verse**

You may also enjoy
some other versions
this verse:
He Who Declares His
Thought
PFI ESV Songs 1,
Track 6
He Who Forms the
Mountains
PFI ESV Songs 1,
Track 7
Behold,
PFI ESV Songs 1,
Track 8
For Behold,
PFI ESV Songs 1,
Track 8

"How do I know this is true? The Bible tells me so!

Amos 4:13 tells us: "For behold, He who forms the mountains, creates the wind and declares to man what is His thought...the LORD, the God of hosts, is His name."

Big Question 1 Bible Verse Song
The LORD Declares: Amos 4:13 ESV

PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 5

The LORD declares to man his thought,
The LORD declares to man his thought,
The LORD declares to man his thought,
Amos Four, thirteen.

"The LORD created everything--even us! He's the one to declares to us what His thoughts are. That means He shows us what He's like."

2. DIGGING DEEP DOWN: Key Concept and Story (introduce the Bible Truth and tell the related story)**Bible Truth 1**

"It's time for us to dig down deeper for answers to our Big Question. We're learning **FIVE** Bible Truths that all tell us something about how God is what He's like.

The Bible Truth we are going to be thinking about today is:
God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him.

When God created people, He made them with a special heart so they could know and love Him. This isn't the heart that pumps blood through our body. This is something very different. We can't feel this heart inside of us in the same way as we feel the heart that beats in our chest. This heart is even more amazing! THIS heart will never die--it lives forever!

The Bible also calls this heart, a spirit or a soul. And it's in this very special heart that God reveals Himself to us. God's Holy Spirit works in our heart, helping us to believe in God, turn away from our sins and to trust in Jesus as our Savior. When we do, God will work in our heart even more, making it brand new, and filling it with knowledge of Him and with more love for Him and others.

2. DIGGING DEEP DOWN, continued**LESSON 1 STORY****New Testament
Story:****The Case of the
Stone and the
Seekers**

Acts 17

"Now it's time for today's story called: **The Case of the Stone and the Seekers.**

As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:

- 1. Who first laid down this stone and who did they seek?**
- 2. How did Paul use the stone? What did he tell the people of Athens about their hearts?**

(If desired, write these questions on a sheet of paper to refer to when the story is finished.)

Read story.

After reading story, ask for the children's answers to the questions.

1. Who first laid down this stone and who did they seek? The people of Athens sought an Unknown God. They wanted Him to stop the plague. They laid down this stone (and many others) as altars on which to sacrifice sheep as worship offerings to this Unknown God.

2. How did Paul use the stone? What did he tell the people of Athens about their hearts? Paul used the stone many years later to tell the people of Athens about the Lord, the one, true God, they had long ago worshiped as the Unknown God. He told them that the Lord made their hearts to worship and know Him.

Close in prayer. (prayer suggestions included at end of story)

LESSON 2 STORY**Story of the Saints:****The Case of the
Prayerless Man**

"Now it's time for today's story called: **The Case of the Prayerless Man.**

As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:

- 1. Who was the man who wouldn't pray and who wanted him to pray?**
- 2. How did he change and why?**

(If desired, write these questions on a sheet of paper to refer to when the story is finished.)

Read story.

After reading story, ask for the children's answers to the questions.

1. Who was the man who wouldn't pray and who wanted him to pray? The Streetlayer wouldn't pray to God. His family, Mr. Spurgeon (and God!) wanted him to pray.

2. How did he change and why? The Streetlayer became a praying man. His family and Mr. Spurgeon prayed for him and encouraged him to pray. God worked in his heart, helping him to turn to Him and pray.

Close in prayer. (prayer suggestions included at end of story)

2. DIGGING DEEP DOWN, continued

LESSON 3	
<p>Old Testament Story:</p> <p>The Case of the Man After God's Heart Psalm 19, 23, 24, 62; 1 Chronicles 29; 2 Samuel 5-6, 15</p>	<p>"Now it's time for today's story called: The Case of the Man After God's Heart. As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Who was the man after God's own heart? What does that mean? 2. How did God reveal himself to this man and help him? <p><i>(If desired, write these questions on a sheet of paper to refer to when the story is finished.)</i></p> <p><i>Read story.</i></p> <p><i>After reading story, ask for the children's answers to the questions.</i></p> <p>1. Who was the man after God's own heart? What does that mean? David. It meant that David loved God and trusted Him to be who He was--the one, true God!</p> <p>2. How did God reveal himself to this man in his heart and help him? God's Holy Spirit whispered into David's heart the truths he had learned from the Bible. He reminded David that God could be trusted to be who He said He was. He would always take care of David. This helped David step out in faith and do courageous things to the glory of God.</p> <p><i>Close in prayer. (prayer suggestions included at end of story)</i></p>

3. TAKING ACTION: Response Activities *(choose from among these activities)*

<p>Response Activities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ACTS Prayer Activity: Add your own prayer requests to the ACTS prayer Sneaky Snack: Story-related snack Bible Truth Review Activity: Game with questions related to the Bible Truth Bible Truth Hymn: Music activities to learn a portion of a Bible Truth-related hymn Bible Verse Review Activity: Game with questions related to Bible Truth Bible verse Bible Verse Song: Music activities to learn the Bible Verse song Story Review Activity: Game with questions related to the Bible Truth and Case Case RePlay, Jr. and Sr.: Two drama activities that review the story: one for younger children, one for older children. Craft: Story-related craft VIPP (Very Important Prayer Person): Game and a coloring activity to help children learn about people in your church and how to pray for them. <p><i>(VIP resources: found online or at back of this book)</i></p>
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4. TAKING IT TO OTHERS *Optional presentations for the last few minutes of class*

<p>Presenting to Other Children</p>	<p><i>If you split the children into different response activities, you can gather the children together again and have each small group make presentations to show the other children what they learned. Presentation ideas are included in the resources for each activity.</i></p>
<p>Presenting to Parents</p>	<p><i>If you keep your children together for response activities, you can have them make a presentation of something they have learned to their parents when they come to pick them up from class. Presentation ideas are included in the resources for each activity.</i></p>

5. TAKING IT HOME *(Take Home Sheet)*

<p>PFI Pronto</p>	<p><i>Give out the PFI Pronto for the case story as well as any other materials as the children are dismissed.</i></p>
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BIBLE TRUTH 1, LESSON 1: PLANNER/OVERVIEW

GETTING STARTED: Welcome and Opening Songs (*introduce unit and get kids moving with these songs*)

Welcome to Praise Factory: PFI: Praise Factory Investigators Theme Song *PFI Songs ESV 1, Track 1*

Rules to Help Us Worship God and Love One Another: WoGoLOA Classroom Rules Song
PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 2

Big Question Under Investigation: Big Question 1 Songs *PFI ESV Songs 1, Tracks 3,4*

Big Question Bible Verse: Amos 4:13 Song: The LORD Declares *PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 5*

Extra Song: He Who Declares His Thought PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 6

Extra Song: He Who Forms the Mountains PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 7

Extra Song: For Behold PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 8

Extra Song: For Behold PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 9

DIGGING DEEP DOWN: Key Concept and Story (*introduce the Bible Truth and tell the related story*)

Bible Truth 1: God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him

Bible Truth Hymn: Be Thou My Vision, vs.1,2 *PFI ESV Songs 1, Tracks 10,11*

Bible Verse: Psalm 63:1,5 ESV

Bible Verse Song: O God, You Are My God: Psalm 63:1,5 *PFI ESV Songs s 1, Track 12*

Extra Bible Verse Song: You Are My God: Psalm 63:1,5 ESV PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 13

Extra Bible Verse Song: As A Deer: Psalm 42:1,2 HCSB PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 14

Lesson 1 New Testament Story: The Case of the Stone and the Seekers *Acts 17*

TAKING ACTION: Response Activities (*choose from among these activities*)

Snack and Discussion Planner: Greek Gods and the Altar to the Unknown God

ACTS Prayer: Prayer Sheet

Bible Truth Review: Discussion Questions and Game: Beanbag Scramble

Bible Truth Hymn: Be Thou My Vision, vs.1,2 *PFI ESV Songs 1, Tracks 10,11*

Song, Sign Language and Song Game: Word Take Away **PFI ESV 1 SONGBOOK or ONLINE**

Bible Verse Review: Psalm 63:1,5 Discussion Sheet and Game: Simon Says How

Bible Verse Song: O God, You Are My God: Psalm 63:1,5 *PFI ESV Songs s 1, Track 12*

Song, Sign Language and Song Game: Big Voice, Little Voice **PFI ESV 1 SONGBOOK or ONLINE**

Story Review: Discussion Questions and Game: Secret Agent

Case RePlay, Jr: Drama Activity for Youngest Children (children do same story actions together)

Case RePlay, Sr: Drama Activity for Most Children (children re-tell story with individual parts)

Craft: Altar to the Unknown God

VIPP (Very Important Prayer Person) Prayer Time: Coloring Sheets (back of book); Game: Mix and Match

TAKING IT HOME: Take Home Sheet for Review and Family Devotions

PFI Pronto: Bible Truth 1, Lesson 1 **PFI ESV PRONTOS 1 BOOK or ONLINE**

NEW TESTAMENT STORY**P.1****The Case of the Stone and the Seekers Acts 17**

by Connie Dever

Our story is called:**The Case of the Stone and the Seekers.****As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:**

1. Who first laid down this stone and who did they seek?
2. How did Paul use the stone? What did he tell the people of Athens about their hearts?

This story is a New Testament story. It takes place about 20 years after Jesus died on the cross and was raised from the dead.

What a place ancient Athens was to visit! Its white, stone temples and buildings were beautiful to look at. Its people were smart and loved to talk about interesting things... for hours! No wonder so many people travelled great distances to visit Athens!

The people of Athens loved to build beautiful buildings and talk about important things, but also they loved to worship, too. Did you know the people of Athens worshipped HUNDREDS of gods and goddesses?! They would carve beautiful, stone statues of them. Some statues were put in the big temple buildings. Other statues were put in little shrine buildings. And many more statues were put along the streets and in gardens. Everywhere you looked in Athens, there seemed to be a statue to another god!

When Paul went to Athens, he was shocked by these hundreds of gods. And, he wasn't just shocked. He was so, so sad! So many gods, yet none of them was the LORD, the one, true God. The LORD was the one who had made these people with a heart to know and love Him; yet, He was completely unknown to them. So many gods, but none could save! How the people of Athens needed to hear the good news of His Son, Jesus! But how?

The answer came to Paul as he looked down among all those statues and saw a very old, very simple stone. On it, someone had carved the words, "To an Unknown God."

There was an amazing, old story behind that simple, little stone. A man named Laertius wrote it down. Many years earlier, a terrible sickness had spread through Athens. Many people were dying. The leaders tried everything they could think of. The people brought

worship gifts and prayed to every god. But still the sickness continued. Things seemed hopeless.

They called for a wise man named Epimenides to come help them. Epimenides listened to their problem and came up with a very surprising idea. "You worship many gods...hundreds of gods...but there must be another. An Unknown God who has power to heal this illness. We must seek Him and ask Him to help you," he told them.

"Meet me tomorrow morning at Mars Hill-- that grassy hill where you have put the statues of your many gods," Epimenides said. "Bring a flock of sheep of all different colors. Make sure they are healthy and very hungry. Bring stonemasons with their carving tools. Bring lots of stones and mortar (like cement), too," Epimenides ordered. "We will cry out to this Unknown God and offer Him worship gifts. Perhaps He will hear us and help us, even though we do not know His name," he told them.

"We will do what you ask," the leaders agreed, then sent off servants to make the necessary preparations.

The next morning, the leaders of Athens met Epimenides on Mars Hill with everything he had asked for. Many of the people of Athens came, too. Everyone watched and hoped.

"Very good," Epimenides said, as he looked at the hungry sheep. "Don't let them eat until I say so," he told the shepherds. "They must stay hungry!" This was not an easy job! The sheep kept trying to nibble the juicy grass of Mars Hill.

"Quiet!" Epimenides said, "I'm going to pray to the Unknown God and ask for His help." Everyone listened as Epimenides prayed: "Great Unknown God! Please hear our prayers and help us! These sheep are our

Story-telling Tips

Ahead of time:

1. Read the Bible verses and story. Pray!
2. Create story cue cards on index cards (or highlight text).
3. Practice telling story dramatically, timing your presentation. Shorten, if necessary to fit your allotted time.
4. Decorate area with story props that help bring your story alive.

During your presentation:

1. Maintain as much eye contact as possible as you tell the story. Point to/use props at important points in the story. Include the kids in your story with a few questions about what they think will happen or words/concepts that might be new to them.
2. Watch the kids for signs that their attention span has been reached. Shorten, if necessary.

offering to You. Show us that You hear us and accept our worship gifts by causing these hungry sheep to lie offering to You. Show us that You hear us and accept our worship gifts by causing these hungry sheep to lie down on the grass instead of eating it. Please help us, though we do not know Your name. Please stop the plague," Epimenides begged.

When Epimenides finished praying, he turned to the shepherds and said, "Release the sheep! Watch them carefully! Notice which ones eat and which ones lie down. We will offer the ones who lie down as worship gifts to the Unknown God," he told them.

"This is crazy!" many thought. "These sheep are straining to eat the grass! It would truly be an act of God for sheep as hungry as these to not eat!"

But sure enough, sheep all over the hillside lay down instead of eating! "It's a sign from the Unknown God! These are the sheep to offer to Him as worship gifts!" everyone shouted in excitement.

"Come, stonemasons!" Epimenides ordered. "Bring your stones and tools. Make an altar where each sheep is lying down. On the side of each altar, carve these words: 'To an Unknown God,'" Epimenides told them.

Soon the air was filled with the loud banging of chisels and hammers of the stonemasons. When they finished, the sheep were placed on the altars as worship gifts. Then everyone prayed and waited.

Within a week, the plague had stopped completely! The people of Athens were overjoyed! The Unknown God had heard their prayers and helped them. They offered Him more worship gifts on the stone altars. They prayed to Him, saying, "Thank You for stopping the plague."

This was the story of the great sickness that was stopped and the great, mysterious One who rescued the people of Athens, as Laertius wrote it down. And now, six hundred years later, Paul would use that old story and one of the simple, little stone altars left on that hill to tell the people of Athens the good news of Jesus.

Paul stood up and said, "I can tell by your hundreds of gods that you are seeking to find God. But the true God you are looking for is the one you call 'The Unknown God.' I want to tell you about Him," he told them. The

people listened eagerly. Could it be, after all these years, would they finally hear more about the Unknown God?

"The God you worship as the Unknown God is the Creator of heaven and earth," Paul told them. He made everything that you see and enjoy. He is why we live. He created people to know Him, that they would seek him and find Him," Paul told them. "He sent His Son Jesus to die on the cross for the sins of all who put their trust in Him as their Savior. He rose from the dead in victory over sin and death. Turn away from your sin and seek after this true God! Be saved from your sins!" he urged. "Be ready, for one day He will come back on the clouds of heaven. Yes, the Lord Jesus, Himself, who rose from the dead, shall come to judge all the world," he said.

"Ha!" laughed many. "A god who died on a cross and rose from the dead! How silly!" they said and left. They wanted to worship gods, but not one like this! They liked their fake gods who let them do what they wanted to do—like have wild parties to honor them. They wanted nothing to do with this Unknown God, even if He was the one, true God, as Paul claimed.

But others, like Damaris and Dionysius, listened to Paul and stayed. As Paul told them more about Jesus, the Holy Spirit worked in their hearts, helping them believe. They turned from their fake gods and began to follow the Lord Jesus. At last these thirsty hearts were fully satisfied with knowing the one, true God!

Cracking the Case:

It's time to answer our Case Questions.

1. Who first laid down this stone and who did they seek? The people of Athens sought an Unknown God. They wanted Him to stop the plague. They laid down this stone (and many others) as altars on which to sacrifice sheep as worship offerings to this Unknown God.

2. How did Paul use the stone? What did he tell the people of Athens about their hearts? Paul used the stone many years later to tell the people of Athens about the Lord, the one, true God, they had long ago worshiped as the Unknown God. He told them that the Lord made their hearts to worship and know Him.

Something For You and Me**Our Bible Truth is:****God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him****Our Bible Verse is: Psalm 63:1,5 ESV**

"O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water...My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food, and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips."

Our Bible Truth tells us that God gave us a heart to know and love Him. That include you and me! Who will we be like today? Will we be like the people of Athens who laughed when they heard the good news of Jesus? Or will we be like Damaris and Dionysius, with hearts thirsty for God? They wanted to know more about Jesus. They turned from their sins, trusted in Jesus as their Savior and were saved!

Close in prayer.

Closing ACTS Prayer

A God, we praise You for being our Creator who gave us a heart to know You.

C God, we confess that we are sinners, like the Athenians were. And, even though we know that You are the One, True God, too many times we still do not seek You as we should. We need Jesus to be our Savior!

T God, we thank you for showing us who you are, especially in Jesus. Thank You for showing Yourself to us so we can know You.

S God, we ask that You would work in our hearts that we might turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us to know You and love You more and more.

Special Words

Stonemason: A person who cuts, carves and builds with stone.

Chisel: A hand tool with a blade for shaping wood, stone, or metal.

A Note on the Source of This Story

Don Richardson, author of Eternity in Their Hearts, cites this incident in Greek ancient history. Diogenes Laertius is the Greek historian who records the plague and Epimenides' solution in his book, Lives of the Philosophers 1.110. Paul's quote in Titus 1:13, "All Cretans are liars..." is actually a quote from Epimenides, himself. Even though this story may be new to us, the Greeks would have been familiar with Epimenides as a philosopher, and the incident with him and the altar to the Unknown God.

ACTS PRAYER ACTIVITY

Use this sheet to write down your ACTS Prayer

Instructions:

Use this sheet to help the children apply the Bible Truth in prayer. You can use the ACTS provided or even better, have the kids think of their own applications. Also, have the children add their personal requests to the prayer, too. Lead the children in the prayer or let them pray sections, with your help. Never force a child to pray! Non-readers can participate by you whispering a section of the prayer into their ear and allowing them to pray it aloud for the group.

ADORATION:

God, we praise You for being a God we can know. We praise You for being our Maker who wants us to know and love You.

God, we praise You for being.....

Add your own Adorations:

CONFESSION:

God, we confess that we don't seek You as we should, even though You made us to know You. We're sinners! We need a Savior!

God, we have sinned against You....

Add your own Confessions:

THANKSGIVING:

Thank You, God for making us to know and love You. Thank You for helping us to know and love You--even when we don't seek You! Thank You for sending You Holy Spirit to work in our hearts and for sending Jesus to save us.

God, we thank You for...

Add your own Thanksgivings:

SUPPLICATION:

God, help us to know You better and help others to know You better, too. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Send Your Holy Spirit to work in our heart that we might know, love and obey You, more and more.

God, we need Your help...

Add your own Supplication:

SNEAKY SNACK

Can you figure out how this snack ties in with our case?

Snack: Greek Gods and the Altar to the Unknown God

Stick four Teddy graham “greek gods” upright in donut hole halves and have one extra donut hole with nothing on it.

This is only a suggestion. Feel free to modify. Be mindful of allergy issues among your children!

Case Tie-in: The people of Athens worshipped many gods, but Paul used the Altar to the Unknown God to tell them about the Lord, the one, true God.

SOUL FOOD

Food for thought during snack time

1. What does the snack have to do with the story?

Choose a few questions from the other activity discussion sheets to talk about during this snack time.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

Directions: Read and discuss Bible Truth, using a FEW of the questions. Play game. Feel free to modify the game to fit your children.

God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him

When God created people, He made them with a special heart so they could know and love Him. This isn't the heart that pumps blood through our body. This is something very different. We can't feel this heart inside of us in the same way as we feel the heart that beats in our chest. This heart is even more amazing! THIS heart will never die--it lives forever!

The Bible also calls this heart, a spirit or a soul. And it's in this very special heart that God reveals Himself to us. God's Holy Spirit works in our heart, helping us to believe in God, turn away from our sins and to trust in Jesus as our Savior. When we do, God will work in our heart even more, making it brand new, and filling it with knowledge of Him and with more love for Him and others.

Understanding the Bible Truth

1. What did God create people with so they can know and love Him? *A heart.*
2. Is this special heart the one that we feel beat in our chest? If not, then what is it? *No. This heart is something very different from the one that pumps blood. We can't feel it or see it. And it will never die.*
3. What are other names the Bible calls this special heart? *Soul or spirit.*
4. What does God do in this very special heart? *He reveals Himself to us.*
5. What does God, the Holy Spirit do in this heart? *He is the one that works in our hearts, helping us to believe in God, turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.*
6. What kind of work does God do in our heart when we do turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior? *He makes our heart brand new, filling it with more knowledge of Him and more love for Him and for others.*

Story Connection Questions

1. How does the case story point to the **Bible Truth: God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him**? *Paul used the Altar to the Unknown God to tell the people of Athens about the one, true God who made them to know and love Him. He told them about Jesus, God's Son, who came to save us from our sins. As Paul preached, God worked in the hearts of some of the listeners, showing them that He was the one, true God and helping them to turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior.*

Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does our Bible Truth have to do with our Bible Verse: **Psalms 63:1,5**: "O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water...My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food, and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips."?

This verse tells us that God created us with a soul--another word for this special heart-- that longs to know Him. It reminds us that only God can satisfy our heart and when we seek after Him, He satisfies our heart as much as a big glass of water satisfies us when we are thirsty, or a big, yummy meal satisfies us when we are hungry. And the better we know Him, the more joy we have.

Life Application Questions

1. What did God give you to know Him? *A heart.*
2. Who can help you seek and find God? *God's Holy Spirit.*
3. What can God's Holy Spirit do in your heart? *He can help you to believe in God, turn away from your sins, and trust in Jesus as your Savior. He can make your heart brand-new, helping you know Him and giving you love for Him.*

ACTS Questions

1. What is something we can praise God for because of this Bible Truth?

Praise God for being a God we can know. Praise God for being our Maker who wants us to know and love Him.

2. What are sins we can confess to God because of this Bible Truth? *Confess that we don't seek God as we should, even though He made us to know Him. We deserve His punishment! We need Jesus to save us!*

3. What is something we can thank God for because of this Bible Truth?

Thank God for not just making us to know and love Him, but helping us to know Him and know love, even when we don't seek Him! Thank Him for sending His Holy Spirit to work in our hearts and for sending Jesus to save us.

4. What is something we can ask God for from this Bible Truth? *Ask God to help us know Him better and help others to know Him, too. Ask Him to help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus. Ask God to send His Holy Spirit to work in our hearts that we might know, love and obey God more and more.*

The Gospel

1. God made us to know and love Him. But what must happen if we ARE to know and love Him?

God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship Him and live by His good laws. But we are all sinners who have rebelled against Him. We all deserve death--God's just, eternal punishment for our sins. How terrible! But God has good news for us. In His great mercy, God sent His Son Jesus to earth to save sinners. Yes, Jesus, the perfect Son of God, left His home in heaven and became a man. He lived the perfect life that pleases God. (He's the only one who has ever done that!) He offered it up to God His Father as the perfect sacrifice for sins when He suffered and died on the cross. Then, on the third day, Jesus rose from the dead in victory. He had fully paid for the sins of God's people, so they wouldn't have to! Now all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior will receive forgiveness of sins and eternal life with God. They will be His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. We can be God's people, too, if we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior.

Game: Beanbag Scramble

Materials

Small bowl or bag
 1 Bean Bag per child
 CD and CD player
 Bible Truth Questions

Preparing the Game

1. Choose 20+ questions for your game from the Bible Truth Discussion Questions, or make up your own.
2. Write the Bible Truth questions on small thin strips of paper (or make a photocopy of the Bible Truth Discussion Questions and simply cut them into strips) and put them in the bag/bowl.

Playing the Game

Have the children form partners, then form a big, double circle. Give each child a bean bag. Have them balance them on their heads. Tell the children that you will start the music and tell the children to move however you command them to move, such as march, walk, skip, tip toes, big knee bends, pat head, fly like a bird, etc. (BUT NOT RUN!!!) and try not to let their bean bag fall off their heads. When/if the bean bag falls off, a team is to sit down. When the music stops, all of the seated children are asked a question. If they get the right answer, then everyone is released to the march again. If not, then they must wait until the next time a question is asked and answered correctly.

Game continues as number of questions, time, and attention span allow.

NOTE: Have the children who are "out" help make up actions for the other children to do, put them in charge of the music, etc. along with you. This will keep them happily occupied as they continue.

Non-competitive Option

Let all the children whose beanbag fell join back into the march, even if the class misses the question. Add the missed question back into the bag for further review.

Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Quiz Questions

Have the children choose a few of the questions from the game to ask the parents/other children during TAKING IT TO OTHERS time. Help pre-readers by whispering the question in their ear and letting them ask it aloud to the parents/other children. Make sure you read the Bible verse aloud before you ask your questions.

Directions:

1. Write words to song in large print before class.
2. Play the song for the children, helping them follow along on the song sheet.
3. Discuss the song, using a few questions from the discussion sheet. *Don't use them all!*
4. Introduce sign language for key words of your choice from sign language sheet for your song. Use as few or as many as you think the children can learn.
5. Sing and sign the song. Sign language as well as large format lyrics and sheet music are found in the PFI Unit Songbook or online.
6. If desired, play the Song Game.

Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Presenting and Singing the Song

1. Sing and sign the song, encouraging the watching children/parents to join in.
2. Ask the class some of the questions listed below. The Bible Truth Connection Question is particularly good to help them understand how the song ties in with the Bible Truth.

Be Thou My Vision**Verse 1**

Be Thou my vision,
O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me,
save that Thou art:
Thou my best thought,
by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping,
Thy presence my light.

Verse 2

Be Thou my Wisdom,
And Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee
And Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father,
I, Thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling,
And I with Thee one.

Listen to it on PFI ESV Songs 1, Tracks 10,11

Understanding the Song

1. What does "Thou" mean? *Old English word for "you," often used to show respect to God.*
2. What does it mean to want God to be your vision? *We think of vision as what you see or focus on with your eyes. This person is not talking about what he sees with his eyes. He's talking about what he thinks about in his heart. The vision of your heart is what you focus on –or think about– in your heart. If God is the vision of your heart, He is the one you think about most of all.*
3. What does it mean for God to be the Lord of your heart? *A Lord is like a king. A king rules over his kingdom. His people serve him and he tells them what he wants them to do and they try to do it. God is the Lord of His people's hearts. They serve Him. He tells them what He wants them to do and they try to do it.*
4. What does "naught" mean? *Another word for "nothing."*
5. What does "naught be all else to me, save that Thou art"? *There is nothing that means as much to him as God.*
6. What does it mean that God is his "best thought, by day or by night"? *God is the best thing of everything that he can think about, day or night—anytime.*
7. What does mean for God's presence to be your light? *Not that God is like a night light so that he will never have to be in the dark. It means that God is always with him. He is always guiding him in what he should do, just like a light shines in a dark room and lets you see where you should go.*
8. Was does it mean to ask God to be your "Wisdom"? *To not depend on your own understanding but on God's to know what is best. It also means asking God to show you what He thinks as wise, to help you believe it and do it.*
9. What does it mean to ask God to be your "true Word"? *It means to ask God to help you to believe in His Word., and help you desire to live by them in all you think, say and do.*
10. Who does the writer of the song want to always be with Him? *The Lord.*
11. Who is God a great Father to? *God is a great Father, not just to Jesus, but also to all of His people.*
12. Who is like a "true son" to God? *Not just Jesus, but all of God's people.*
13. How can we have God as our true Father? How can we be His true sons? *By turning from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our own Savior.*
14. Is true sons just talking about boys/men or does it include girls/women, too? *Yes. Sons means all people.*
15. How does God dwell in His people? *The Holy Spirit lives inside their hearts.*
16. What does it mean to be one with God? *It means to be in happy fellowship with Him in your heart; and, in agreement with what He wants.*

Bible Truth Connection Question

1. How does this song relate to our Bible Truth: **God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him?**

God reveals Himself by placing in all people a spirit (or special heart), by which we can know and love God. Those who seek after God and become His people (by turning from their sins and trusting in Jesus as their Savior) have the greatest joy of knowing and loving God in their hearts now. And, they will go on knowing and loving Him more and more for all eternity.

Story Connection

1. How does this song relate to today's story? *The Athenians worshipped many gods, but Paul pointed them to the Lord. He made their hearts. He alone could save them and come live inside their hearts, if they repented of their sins and believed in Him. They would see that He was the one, true God. He would be their best thought day or night.*

Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does this hymn have to do with our Bible Verse: **Bible Verse: Psalm 63:1,5:** "O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water...My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food, and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips."?

Just like water satisfies our body's thirst, so our soul will only be satisfied by knowing the God who made us. Nothing else will do. No one else will satisfy us. He is our best thought by day or by night. He is the Lord of our heart.

Life Application Questions

1. How can we be affected by the message of this song? *We can praise God for being so wonderful to know. We can ask Him to be the Lord of our heart--helping us to trust Him as our Savior. And, continuing to work in our hearts that we might know and love Him more and more.*

2. What is the first step God calls us and all people to take to know, love and obey God? *To turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.*

ACTS Questions

1. What is something we can praise God for from this hymn?

Praise God for being the Lord of the hearts of His people.

2. What are sins we can confess to God from this hymn?

That many times we do not want God to be the Lord of our heart. Many times we want to do things our way instead of His. We are sinners in need of a Savior!

3. What is something we can thank God for from this hymn?

We can thank God for always being with His people by day or by night. They know He can comfort them with thoughts of Him at anything. They are never alone.

4. What is something we can ask God for from this hymn?

That God would work in our hearts that we confess our sins, might turn from our sins and trust Jesus as our Savior. That God would be the Lord of our hearts and that He would help us to know and love Him, and be with us, by day or by night.

Gospel Question

1. Why do God's people call God their best thought by day or by night? Because of all He has done for them. What is this amazing good news of God's love? How can we know it ourselves? What is the gospel?

God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship Him and live by His good laws. But we are all sinners who have rebelled against Him. We all deserve death--God's just, eternal punishment for our sins. How terrible! But God has good news for us. In His great mercy, God sent His Son Jesus to earth to save sinners. Yes, Jesus, the perfect Son of God, left His home in heaven and became a man. He lived the perfect life that pleases God. (He's the only one who has ever done that!) He offered it up to God His Father as the perfect sacrifice for sins when He suffered and died on the cross. Then, on the third day, Jesus rose from the dead in victory. He had fully paid for the sins of God's people, so they wouldn't have to! Now all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior will receive forgiveness of sins and eternal life with God. They will be His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. We can be God's people, too, if we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior.

Song Game: Word Take Away

Materials

Sign Language Signs and Song

White board and marker

Eraser

Preparing the Game

1. Write the words to the song on a white board.

Playing the Game

1. After children have learned the song and signs well, then tell the children that you are going to leave out words from the song (that you've learned signs for) and just do the sign in its place.
2. Have the children help you choose a word to take out. Erase the word from the board. Review the sign the for erased word.
3. Sing the song, trying to remember to NOT sing the word and do only the sign.
4. Continue to take out words until all of the words (with signs) have been taken out.

Game continues as number of questions, time, and attention span allow.

choose a FEW questions for discussion, then choose the game and/or music activity

Meditation Version: Psalm 63:1, 5 ESV

"O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water...My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food, and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips."

Alternate Memory Version: Psalm 63:1 ESV

"O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you."

Understanding the Bible Verse

1. Who does the writer call God? What does that mean? *His God. That means that he worships God and wants to know, love and obey Him.*
2. What does it mean to earnestly seek God? *To be earnest about something to try hard to do it. The writer of this psalm is trying hard to seek God. He is trying hard to know God and live for Him.*
3. What does it mean for your soul to thirst after God and your flesh to faint for God, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water? *It doesn't mean that you need to drink a cup of water or you will faint! It is a word picture that tells us that this man really, really wanted to know God and that only God can satisfy him.*
4. What does it mean for your soul to be satisfied as with fat and rich food? *It means that knowing God is so wonderful and satisfying to your heart, just like a big meal of your favorite food is satisfying to your stomach.*
5. What does knowing God make the writer want to do with his lips? *Praise God joyfully.*

Bible Truth Connection Question

1. What does this verse have to do with the **Bible Truth: God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him?** *God gave us each a heart that desires to know and love Him. When we do know Him, He satisfies us in a way that nothing else can. The more we know Him, the more joy we have.*

Story Connection Questions

1. How does this verse relate to our story? *Paul used the story of the Altar to the Unknown God to show the Athenians that though they worshipped hundreds of gods, their hearts were thirsty to know the one, true God and His Son, Jesus. He created them and made them to know and love Him. They would only be satisfied when they turned away from their sins and worshiped Him.*

Life Application Questions

1. How can God become OUR God? How can we become God's people? *By turning from our sins, confessing them to God and trusting in Jesus as our own Savior.*
2. What can God give us when we earnestly seek Him? *He can satisfy our soul--give us the joy, rest and peace that we desire but can only find in Him.*

ACTS Questions

1. What is something we can praise God for from this Bible verse? *Praise God for being the God who satisfies us with Himself.*
2. What is something we can confess to God from this Bible verse? *Confess that many times we don't turn to God to be satisfied and happy. We choose to go to other things or people to try to be satisfied instead. We need a Savior!*
3. What is something we can thank God for from this Bible verse? *Thank God that He truly is most satisfying. Thank Him for sending Jesus to make the way for us to know God and be satisfied in Him.*
4. What is something we can ask God for from this Bible verse? *Ask God to work in our hearts, helping us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. We can ask Him to satisfy our souls with Himself. We can ask Him to help us to know Him and the joy that comes only from knowing Him..*

Gospel Question

1. God made us to earnestly seek Him, but instead all of us have turned away from Him. Is there any hope for us? Yes, there is! What is the gospel?

God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship Him and live by His good laws. But we are all sinners who have rebelled against Him. We all deserve death--God's just, eternal punishment for our sins. How terrible! But God has good news for us. In His great mercy, God sent His Son Jesus to earth to save sinners. Yes, Jesus, the perfect Son of God, left His home in heaven and became a man. He lived the perfect life that pleases God. (He's the only one who has ever done that!) He offered it up to God His Father as the perfect sacrifice for sins when He suffered and died on the cross. Then, on the third day, Jesus rose from the dead in victory. He had fully paid for the sins of God's people, so they wouldn't have to! Now all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior will receive forgiveness of sins and eternal life with God. They will be His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. We can be God's people, too, if we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior.

Game: Simon Says How

Materials

Bible verse written up in large print so that all can see

A die

Die Number and Action Chart (see below)

Preparing the Game

Make a sign as follows:

1 = Head

2 = Feet

3 = Hands

4 = Head and Feet

5 = Feet and Hands

6 = Whole Body

Learning the Verse

Some or all of your children may be non- or early readers. Teach the verse in sections, having them say it after you. Repeat a few times. Add clapping or other movement as they say it.

Directions

1. If desired, lead the children in a discussion of a **FEW** of the most important questions before beginning game.

2. Explain the game to them as follows:

Have the children spread out facing the leader. Tell the children that they are going to play "Simon Says How", a game in which everyone will take turns making up different actions that they will try to do while trying to say the verse. Explain that "Simon" will roll the die and make up actions that use the parts of the body that correspond to the number on the chart. Everyone else will then recite the verse while doing the actions "Simon" made up. Simon will then choose another person to be Simon in his place.

Game continues until all children get to be Simon, or as time and attention span allow.

Optional **TAKING IT TO OTHERS** Activity: Quiz Questions

Have the children choose a few of the questions from the game to ask the parents/other children during **TAKING IT TO OTHERS** time. Help pre-readers by whispering the question in their ear and letting them ask it aloud to the parents/other children. Make sure you read the Bible verse aloud before you ask your questions.

Directions:

1. Write words to song in large print before class.
2. Play the song for the children, helping them follow along on the song sheet.
3. Discuss the song, using a few questions from the discussion sheet. *Don't use them all!*
4. Introduce sign language for key words of your choice from sign language sheet for your song. Use as few or as many as you think the children can learn.
5. Sing and sign the song. Sign language as well as large format lyrics and sheet music are found in the PFI Unit Songbook or online.
6. If desired, play the Song Game.

Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Presenting and Singing the Song

1. Sing and sign the song, encouraging the watching children/parents to join in.
2. Ask the class some of the questions listed below. The Bible Truth Connection Question is particularly good to help them understand how the song ties in with the Bible Truth.

O God, You Are My God: Psalm 63: 1,5

Refrain:

O God, You are my God, earnestly I seek You,
 O God, You are my God, earnestly I seek You
 My soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
 As in a dry and weary land, where there is no water.
 My soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
 As in a dry and weary land, where there is no water. *Refrain*

My soul will be satisfied, as with rich food,
 My soul will be satisfied, and my mouth will praise you
 My soul will be satisfied, as with rich food,
 My soul will be satisfied, and my mouth will praise you.
Refrain

Listen to it on PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 12

Song Game: Big Voice, Little Voice**Materials**

Song
 Sign language signs used in the song printed out onto little cards
 Blindfold

Preparing the Game

None.

Playing the Game

1. Practice the song and signs until the children know them well. Then tell them: "Children, we are going to hide a sign language sign and see if one of you can find it... with a little help from the rest of us!"
2. Choose someone to be "It" and blindfold them. Choose another child to hide one of the sign language cards. When it's hidden, "It" can remove the blindfold and begin to look.
3. The rest of the children will sing the song in a louder voice when "It" gets closer to the hidden sign and quieter when "It" gets further from the sign.
4. When "It" finds the hidden clue, another "It" is chosen and play begins again.

Game continues as number of questions, time, and attention span allow.

STORY REVIEW**P.1**

Directions: Read and discuss Bible Truth, using a FEW of the questions. Play game. Feel free to modify the game to fit your children.

General Story Questions

1. What sad thing was happening in Athens? *Lots of people were dying from a terrible sickness.*
2. What did the leaders first do to try to stop the plague? *They gave worship gifts to their hundreds of gods, but the plague continued.*
3. Who did the leaders decide to send for? *They sent for Epimenides, a man from Crete to help them.*
4. What did Epimenides have the leaders do? *He had them bring hungry sheep out to a grassy field on Mars Hill and had men stand by ready to sacrifice on stone altars whichever sheep did not eat the grass, in answer to his prayer.*
5. What did Epimenides pray? *That the Unknown God would accept the sheep as a worship gift, have mercy on them and stop the plague. He asked that the sheep to be sacrificed would lie down without eating the grass, even though they were very hungry as a sign.*
6. What happened after Epimenides prayed? *Many sheep lay down instead of eating the grass. These were sacrificed to the Unknown God.*
7. What did the stonemasons chisel on the stone altars? *To the Unknown God.*
8. When did the plague stop? *Within a week of sacrificing the sheep, the plague had completely stopped.*
9. Did the people keep remembering the Unknown God after the plague stopped? *They did for a while, but in the end they forgot Him.*
10. How did Paul use the Altar to the Unknown God to tell the Athenians about Jesus? *He told them that the god they worship as the Unknown God was the one, true God, who created all things and gave them hearts to know and love Him. He sent Jesus, His Son, to show them what He is like and to save all who turn from their sins and trust in Him as Savior.*
11. What did Paul tell the Athenians that God wanted them to do? *To turn away from their sins and seek Him.*

Bible Truth Connection Questions

1. What does this story have to do with our **Bible Truth: God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him**? *Paul used the Altar to the Unknown God to tell the people of Athens about the one, true God who made them to know and love Him. He told them about Jesus, God's Son, who came to save us from our sins. As Paul preached, God worked in the hearts of some of the listeners, showing them that He was the one, true God and helping them to turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior.*

Life Application Questions

1. What did God give you to know Him? *A heart.*
2. Who can help you seek and find God? *God's Holy Spirit.*
3. What can God's Holy Spirit do in your heart? *He can help you to believe in God, turn away from your sins, and trust in Jesus as your Savior. He can make your heart brand-new, helping you know Him and giving you love for Him.*

Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does the story have to do with our **Bible Verse: Psalm 63:1,5**: "O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water...My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food, and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips." *Paul used the story of the Altar to the Unknown God to show the Athenians that though they worshipped hundreds of gods, their hearts were thirsty to know the one, true God and His Son, Jesus. He created them and made them to know and love Him. They would only be satisfied when they turned away from their sins and worshiped Him.*

ACTS Questions

1. What's something we can praise God for from this story? *Praise Him for being the merciful God who stopped the plague, even though the Athenians did not even know Him name or worship Him.*
2. What's something we can confess from this story? *Confess that we are sinners, just like the Athenians. And, that even though we even know who the One, True God is, that we still do not seek Him as we know we should.*
3. What's something we can thank God for from this story? *We can thank God for showing us who He is, especially in Jesus. We can thank Him for letting us know that He is the One, True God; and know how to be saved through Jesus.*
4. What is something we can ask God for, from this story? *We can ask God to send out more people, like Paul, to tell others in the world about Jesus who do not yet know who He is. We can ask Him to work in our heart, helping us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. We can ask Him to help us all know and love Him more.*

The Gospel

1. What message did Paul preach to the Athenians? What is the gospel?
God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship Him and live by His good laws. But we are all sinners who have rebelled against Him. We all deserve death--God's just, eternal punishment for our sins. How terrible! But God has good news for us. In His great mercy, God sent His Son Jesus to earth to save sinners. Yes, Jesus, the perfect Son of God, left His home in heaven and became a man. He lived the perfect life that pleases God. (He's the only one who has ever done that!) He offered it up to God His Father as the perfect sacrifice for sins when He suffered and died on the cross. Then, on the third day, Jesus rose from the dead in victory. He had fully paid for the sins of God's people, so they wouldn't have to! Now all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior will receive forgiveness of sins and eternal life with God. They will be His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. We can be God's people, too, if we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior.
2. How long would the Athenians wait before someone brought them that message? *600 years!!*
3. Why was it so important that Paul tell the Athenians about the unknown God, even though they worshipped so many other gods? *Because even though the Athenians worshipped many gods, none of them were the Lord, the one true God. They, like all of us, had rebelled against His good laws and deserved His forever punishment. The sacrifices they made to their gods were no good. They needed to turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as the Savior who came to make the one sacrifice that could satisfy God's just punishment. Paul wanted them to turn and trust in Jesus so that they could be forgiven and be saved to live as God's people, knowing Him and loving Him forever.*

Game: Secret Agent

Materials

Various detective looking items (a hat, dark glasses, tie, suit, watch, etc)

Paper and Marker

Tape

Story Review Questions

Preparing the Game

1. Choose 20+ questions for your game from the Story Review Discussion Questions, or make up your own.
2. Write out the questions on small, thin strips of paper. (Or photocopy the review questions and cut them apart). Tape (or pin) each of these in secret places on the detective outfit, such as on the bottom of your shoe, underneath your watch band, inside the hat, on the side of the glasses, etc.

Playing the Game

Divide the children into two teams. Teams will take turn having one of their members guess where a location of a Story Review question on your detective outfit. A team gets a point for finding a question and a point for answering the question correctly. Have the children be specific in their guesses, such as: "on top of your hat" or "inside your hat", or "under your left shoe", etc. That makes for more of a challenge.. If a team is unable to answer the question correctly, the other team can try to answer it for a point.

Game continues until the children find all the questions, or as number of questions, time, and attention span allow.

Non-competitive Option

Don't split into teams. Tell the children how many questions you have hidden on your outfit and challenge them to work together to find them all and answer the questions. Keep track of how many questions they've found with tally marks on a piece of paper.

Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Quiz Questions

Have the children choose a few of the questions from the game to ask the parents/other children during TAKING IT TO OTHERS time. Help pre-readers by whispering the question in their ear and letting them ask it aloud to the parents/other children.

CASE REPLAY ACTIVITIES**P.1**

Use this guide to review the Case Story and act it out for others to enjoy!

CASE REPLAY, JR: YOUNGEST CHILDREN

Description: The children will act out the story together, everyone doing the same action/sound effect at the same time. This activity is most suitable for kindergarteners.

Materials

The Case RePlay, Jr. script for younger children

Preparation

1. Read through the script and write in the blanks along the side possible actions/sound effects the children could do to act it out.

Instructions

1. Tell the children that they will be re-enacting the story together as you tell it.
2. As you read the script, lead the children in actions/sound effects to do with you.
3. If desired, you can read the script and stop at certain sentences and ask them what a good action/sound effect would be to act out what you just read.
4. Repeat the re-enactment one or two times more.

CASE REPLAY, SR: OLDER CHILDREN

Description: The children act out the story as a three-scene play. You will narrate it using the Case RePlay, Sr. script and they will act it out (no spoken words, for the most part), with each child assuming a different character's role. This activity is most suitable for first grade and up. You will review the story, then practice it a few times before performing it for others.

Materials

The Case RePlay, Sr. script
White board or other large format paper
Costumes and props

Preparation

1. Prepare for the play by choosing costumes and props for each character in the story. Decorate the area with any scenery props.
2. Write the words "Beginning," "Middle," "End" on a large piece of paper/whiteboard with plenty of space under each heading. You will use this paper to help the children think about the story as a three-scene play, as it is presented in the script.

Instructions

1. Tell the children that they will get to act out the story as a three-scene play, with a beginning, middle and end section. Tell them that before they can act it out, they need to think it out. as you narrate it with your script.
2. Take the children's answers as they recount the story, helping them put key incidents in the right order.
3. If desired, when they have filled in their Beginning, Middle, End, read through your whole (real) script, so they hear exactly what you will have them act out.
4. Then tell the children that it's time to practice acting out the story.
5. Assign parts to each child. If you are using costumes, do NOT give them out at this point. They will be a distraction.
6. Have all the children sit on the floor or in chairs on one side of the "stage," then call the characters up in place as their part in the story comes.
7. As you read the script, guide the children in where you want them to move or do to act it out.
8. After going through the whole script once, give out any costumes and props and act out the script once or twice more.

Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Re-enacting the Story

Read the script as the children act out together (younger) or assuming different roles (older) as the other children or the parents watch.

CASE REPLAY, JR--YOUNGER KIDS (KINDERGARTEN) P.2

Welcome to our play! The name of our story is called: The Case of the Stone and the Seekers.

Our story takes place in Athens, Greece during two times. It starts out before New Testament times, then finished during New Testament times, after Jesus ROSE from the dead and went back to heaven. It is during the time when the first believers began to spread the good news of Jesus to people everywhere and the Church began to grow.

And now we present: "The Case of the Stone and the Seekers."

Actions:**Scene 1:**

Paul comes to Athens to tell the good news of Jesus. He is shocked at the hundreds of gods the people of Athens worship. He is so sad that the people of Athens do not know the one, true God. He sees the stone to the Unknown God. There is an amazing story behind the stone. There was a terrible sickness in Athens. Many people got sick. Many people died. The people of Athens worshiped hundreds of gods. They prayed to they all for help, but no help came. At last they asked a man named Epimenides to help them.

Scene 2:

Epimenides tells the leaders that he thinks there must an unknown God who could heal the sickness. They must ask Him for help. Epimenides orders the Athenian leaders to meet him on Mars Hill with a flock of hungry sheep stonemasons, stones and mortar for making altars the next morning. Epimenides prays to the Unknown God up on Mars Hill. He asks Him to accept as a worship gift any of the hungry sheep that lay down instead of eat the juicy grass. He asks that this be a sign that He has heard them and will help them. To their amazement, many sheep lay down in the grass and do not eat. The people are overjoyed! stonemasons make altars for each sheep with the inscription: "To an Unknown God" carved on it. The sheep are then sacrificed as worship gifts on them. Within a week the plague has ended. This was the story Laertius wrote down about the sickness and the One who stopped it. The stones stood for years to remind all of it.

Scene 3

Many years pass. The stone altar to the Unknown God still stands on the hill where it had been laid so long ago. Now Paul gathers the people of Athens and tells them the name of the Unknown God. He is Lord, the one, true God, and His Son, Jesus Christ, who suffered on the cross for God's people and rose from the dead in victory. Paul urges the people to put their trust in Him. Many people listen. Some laugh and go back to worshipping their fake gods. But the Lord is at work in the hearts of others, like Dionysius and Damaris They become Christians. At last these people of Athens get to know the one, true God who gave them hearts to know and love Him.

Bible Truth Tie-In:

The Bible Truth we are learning is: **God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him.** The Lord used Paul and the Altar to the Unknown God to show Himself to the hearts of the people of Athens. Some came to know Him that very day. He will show Himself to our hearts, too, if we will ask Him; and, when we will turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

CASE REPLAY, SR--OLDER KIDS (1ST GRADE AND UP) P.3

Welcome to our play! The name of our story is called: The Case of the Stone and the Seekers.

Our story takes place in Athens, Greece during two times. It starts out before New Testament times, then finished during New Testament times, after Jesus rose from the dead and went back to heaven. It is during the time when the first believers began to spread the good news of Jesus to people everywhere and the church began to grow.

The characters in our story are: Nicias, Epimenides, the leaders of Athens, sick and dying people, sheep, stonemasons, Shepherds, Paul, Dionysius, Damaris, and other people of Athens.

And now we present: "The Case of the Stone and the Seekers."

Scene 1: (Beginning)

Paul comes to Athens to tell the good news of Jesus. He is shocked at the hundreds of gods the people of Athens worship. He is so sad that the people of Athens do not know the one, true God. He sees the stone to the Unknown God. There is an amazing story behind the stone. There was a terrible sickness in Athens. Many people got sick. Many people died. The people of Athens worshiped hundreds of gods. They prayed to them all for help, but no help came. At last they asked a man named Epimenides to help them.

Scene 2: (Middle)

Epimenides tells the leaders that he thinks there must be an unknown God who could heal the sickness. They must ask Him for help. Epimenides orders the Athenian leaders to meet him on Mars Hill with a flock of hungry sheep, stonemasons, stones and mortar for making altars the next morning. Epimenides prays to the Unknown God up on Mars Hill. He asks Him to accept as a worship gift any of the hungry sheep that lay down instead of eat the juicy grass. He asks that this be a sign that He has heard them and will help them. To their amazement, many sheep lay down in the grass and do not eat. The people are overjoyed! Stonemasons make altars for each sheep with the inscription: "To an Unknown God" carved on it. The sheep are then sacrificed as worship gifts on them. Within a week the plague has ended. This was the story Laertius wrote down about the sickness and the One who stopped it. The stones stood for years to remind all of it.

Scene 3: (End)

Many years pass. The stone altar to the Unknown God still stands on the hill where it had been laid so long ago. Now Paul gathers the people of Athens and tells them the name of the Unknown God. He is Lord, the one, true God, and His Son, Jesus Christ, who suffered on the cross for God's people and rose from the dead in victory. Paul urges the people to put their trust in Him. Many people listen. Some laugh and go back to worshiping their fake gods. But the Lord is at work in the hearts of others, like Dionysius and Damaris. They become Christians. At last these people of Athens get to know the one, true God who gave them hearts to know and love Him.

Bible Truth Tie-In:

The Bible Truth we are learning is: **God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him.** The Lord used Paul and the Altar to the Unknown God to show Himself to the hearts of the people of Athens. Some came to know Him that very day. He will show Himself to our hearts, too, if we will ask Him; and, when we will turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.

Altar to the Unknown God

Description

Children will make a small clay altar with the Greek words “To an Unknown God” etched on it; and, a stand-up sheep decorated with pom-poms.

Materials

Gray or brown clay, enough to make a 3.5”x 3” slab for each child (can also use salt dough instead of clay, recipe on following page)

1 Toothpick per child

Display of Greek words “To an Unknown God” **αγνωστω θεω**

Black/gray markers

Jiggly eyes, if desired

Sheep outline copied onto card stock for each child (next page)

¼” white &/or black pom-poms

Glue sticks

Preparing the Craft

1. Separate the clay/salt dough into a clump large enough for each child to be able to make a 3.5”x 3” thin slab.
2. Clearly write the Greek words on a large sheet of paper or on a white board in the classroom.
3. Make a copy of the sheep outline for each child and cut out along sides.
4. Set out cotton balls/white pom-poms, jiggly eyes enough for each child’s sheep.
5. Set out glue sticks or small bowls of glue for the children to easily share.
6. Set out a toothpick, gray/black markers for each child.

Making the Craft

1. Show the sample of the craft you have made.
2. Have children shape their clay/salt dough into a 3.5” x 3” slab.
3. Ask them what the Greeks wrote on the altars when they sacrificed their sheep.
4. Show them the Greek words and explain/have them guess what the words say: “To an Unknown God.”
5. Have them etch some or all of the words on their slab using the toothpick, along the bottom of the slab, leaving room for the sheep along the top of the altar. (You may need to do this for the youngest children; or choose to have them not put the words on at all.)
6. Have them make sheep by gluing pom-poms, jiggly eyes, etc. to the sheep outline and filling in other facial and other body details with the markers.
7. Fold sheep along top, allowing it to stand up.
8. If there is time, children may add additional carvings to stone slab.
9. Place finished sheep on altar.

Making a Bible Truth Connection

Once the children have settled into their craft, use the Bible Truth- Craft Connection Sheet to lead discussion about the craft. Note that most of these questions echo the questions on the case board, providing a review of what the children learned earlier.

Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Craft Presentation

If you are presenting the craft to other children or parents the children can hold up their crafts (or your model craft) and read their Bible Truth Connection answers to explain the importance of the craft.

CASE CRAFT**Discussion Guide****Instructions:**

As the children are settled into making their craft, ask them these questions to help them understand the craft's significance. Use the answers provided to guide the children's answers.

Discussion Questions

1. Where was the Altar to the Unknown God?

In Athens, Greece.

2. Who used the Altar to the Unknown God?

Paul (also Epiminedes).

3. What did Paul do with the Altar to the Unknown God?

Paul used the stone Altar to the Unknown God to tell the people of Athens about the Lord, the one true God, and how they could be saved from their sins by faith in Jesus.

4. What is the Bible Truth that we are learning?

He Gave Me a Heart to Know and Love Him.

5. What does our craft have to do with our Bible Truth: God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him?

God worked in the hearts of some, like Dionysius and Damaris, when Paul told them the good news of Jesus. He showed them that Jesus was God's Son, sent to save them and gave them faith to believe in Him. How happy they were to know God in their hearts!

6. What can the Altar to the Unknown God help us remember?

God made all people to know and love Him. There are still many people in the world today who have never heard the name of the true God or of salvation through Jesus. They worship other, false gods. Like Paul, God wants His people today to go and tell them who He really is, that they might come to know Him, too.

TAKING IT TO OTHERS**Craft Presentation****Instructions:**

Have children hold up your model craft/their crafts. Choose five children (or you say) the five sections below to explain the craft's importance.

Presentation:

1. Our craft is The Altar to the Unknown God.

2. In Athens, Greece, Paul used the stone Altar to the Unknown God to tell the people of Athens about the Lord, the one true God, and how they could be saved from their sins by faith in Jesus.

3. Bible Truth 1 is: How Can I Know What God Is Like? He Shows Me What He's Like...He Gave Me a Heart to Know and Love Him.

4. God worked in the hearts of some, like Dionysius and Damaris, when Paul told them the good news of Jesus. He showed them that Jesus was God's Son, sent to save them and gave them faith to believe in Him. How happy they were to know God in their hearts!.

5. Our craft can help us remember that God made all people and gave them each a heart to know and love Him. There are still many people in the world today who have never heard the name of the true God or of salvation through Jesus. They worship other, false gods. Like Paul, God wants His people today to go and tell them who He really is, that they might come to know Him, too.

Note: Even non-readers can participate in presenting the craft, if you will whisper what they are to say in their ear and let them say it aloud for the others to hear.

Salt Dough Recipe

2 cups of flour

1 cup of table salt

1 cup of water

1 tablespoon of vegetable oil (makes it a little easier to knead)

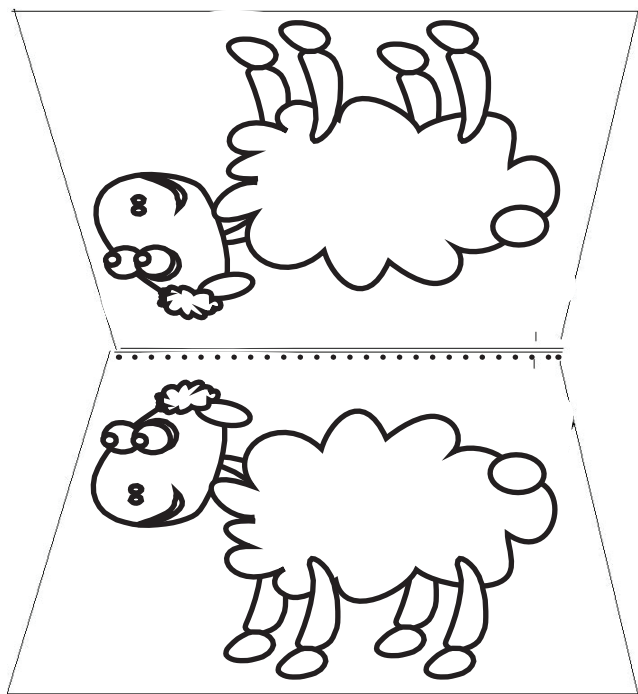
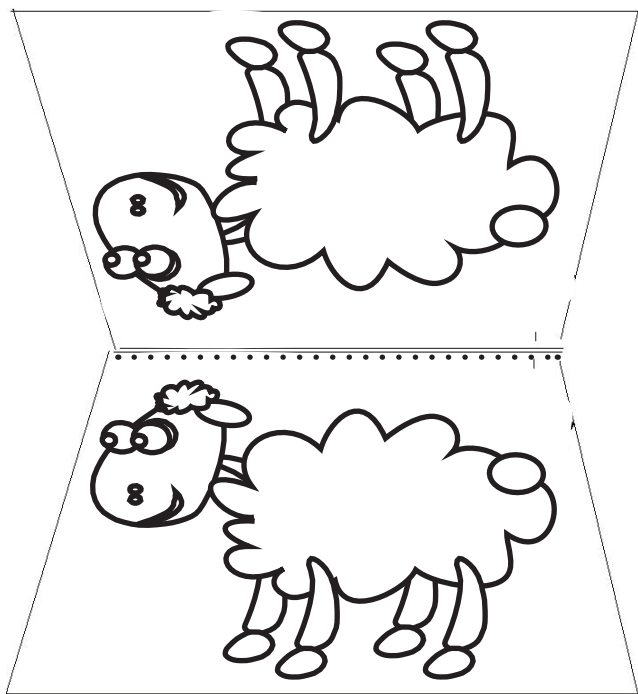
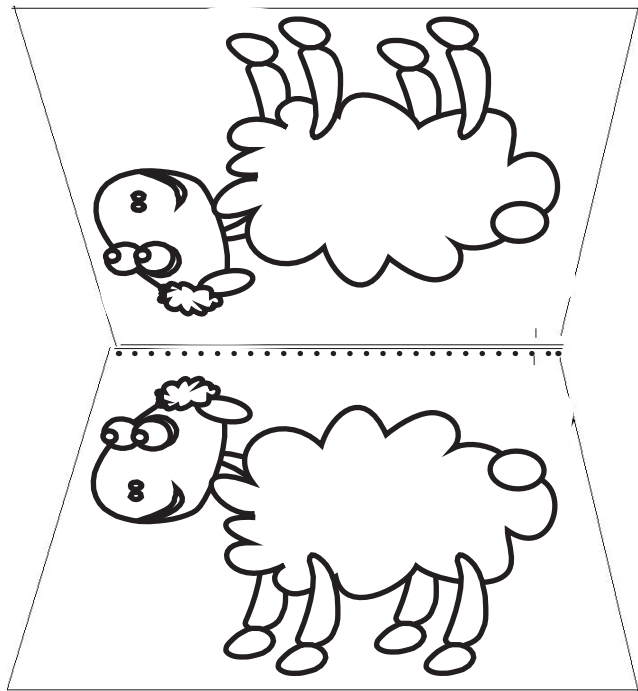
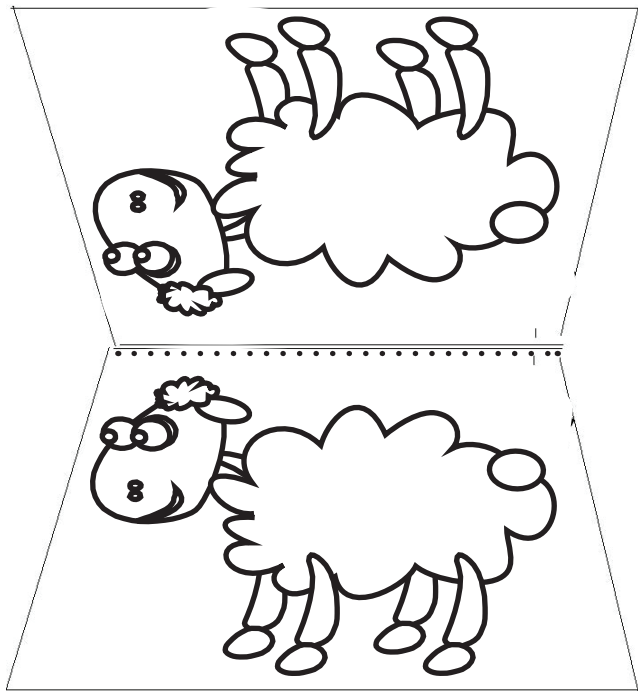
1 tablespoon of wallpaper paste (gives the mixture more elasticity)

1 tablespoon of lemon juice (makes the finished product harder)

Directions

Put plain flour, salt and any, or all, of the optional ingredients into a mixing bowl and gradually add the water, mixing to soft dough. This should be neither too sticky, in which case add more flour, nor too dry, in which case add more water. When mixed remove from the bowl, place on a flat surface and knead for 10 minutes to help create a smooth texture. If possible it is best to let the dough stand for approximately twenty minutes before beginning a project. Unused dough can be stored in the fridge, in an airtight container or cling film, for up to a week. Children always love making models, and as long as you don't add wallpaper paste all of the ingredients are natural. So if they are tempted to put it in their mouths, all it will do is taste incredibly salty.





BEFORE CLASS:**1. PICK YOUR PERSON**

VIPPs can be anyone in your church! Typically, they fall into 6 categories: Church staff, Elders, Deacons/deaconesses, Special Volunteers (people who aren't paid, but spend a lot of time helping out in particular ways), Supported Workers (aka missionaries), and Church Members.

2. GATHER YOUR FACTS

Use the VIPP Information Sheet to write down the facts about your VIPP. The information on this worksheet is used in the VIPP activities, listed in the "Choose an Activity" section below.

DURING THE ACTIVITY:**1. INTRODUCE YOUR VIPP**

Introduce your VIPP to the children, using the VIPP Information Sheet. Fill in a set of VIPP Clue Cards with the information for your VIPP. If desired, you can even have the actual person come into class for the children to meet.

Need help describing what someone does for the church in a kid-friendly way? Check out the list of common VIPPs on the Praise Factory website in the PFI resources. There are lots of kid-friendly descriptions for common VIPP's, such as pastors, elders, deacons and a lot more.

2. PRAY!

Lead the children in praying for the VIPP. Ask the children if they would like to pray for one of the VIPPs prayer requests. Even non-readers can pray for the VIPP if you whisper the prayer request in their ear, then let them say it aloud. Never force a child to pray!

3. CHOOSE AN ACTIVITY

There are two activities you can use to help the children learn about the VIPP:

VIPP Clue Cards: These are nine coloring sheets in which children fill in the nine things they learn about the VIPP from the VIPP Information Sheet. Photocopy a set of each child. Use as few or as many of these Clue Cards as you desire. Clue Cards found at the back of this book.

VIPP Game: This is a game that uses a set of Clue Cards for one or two VIPPs.

Choose a VIPP and fill in his/her information on the VIPP Information Sheet. Fill in a set of VIPP Clue Cards with the information for your VIPP. Tell the children about the VIPP, having them fill in the VIPP Clue Cards with the key facts as they learn them. Write any words the children need to write on a white-board or other piece of paper so they can see how to spell them. Help younger children write these words on their clue cards. Ideas for how to tell the children about many common VIPPs are listed at praisefactory.org with the resources for this Bible Truth.

Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Introduce and Pray for the VIPP

If you are presenting the VIPP to other children or parents you can assign children to hold up the 10 clue cards and say what each card tells about the VIPP. (Or, you can have the children hold them up as you tell what each one means.) Then lead the children in praying for the VIPP.

Game: Mix and Match

Materials

Information for two VIPPs

2 Set of Clue Cards

Bag

Preparing the Game

1. Fill in one set of clue sheets for each of the VIPPs you are using.
2. Put all the Clue Cards in a bag, except for the ones with the names and pictures of the VIPPs.

Playing the Game

Reveal: Tell the children about each VIPP, showing them your filled-in clue cards as you tell about them.

Review: Put all the Clue Cards for both VIPPS in the bag. Mix up. Have children take turns pulling clues out and have the class try to remember which clue goes with which VIPP. You can make this a team game by splitting the children into two teams and giving points when their team players correctly put a clue in the right place.

VIPP INFORMATION SHEET

P.3

VIPP NAME:

WHAT VIPP LOOKS LIKE

Man or Woman? _____

Hair color? _____

Eye color? _____

FAVORITE ANIMAL

FAVORITE FOOD

FAVORITE FREE TIME ACTIVITY

WHAT VIPP DOES DURING WEEK

VIPP GROUP OF SERVICE:

Church Member

Deacon

Elder

Church Staff

Special Volunteer

Supported Worker
(Missionary)

3 WAYS VIPP SERVES CHURCH

**3 WAYS TO PRAY FOR
THE VIPP**

BIBLE TRUTH 1, LESSON 2: PLANNER/OVERVIEW

GETTING STARTED: Welcome and Opening Songs (*introduce unit and get kids moving with these songs*)

Welcome to Praise Factory: PFI: Praise Factory Investigators Theme Song *PFI Songs ESV 1, Track 1*

Rules to Help Us Worship God and Love One Another: WoGoLOA Classroom Rules Song
PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 2

Big Question Under Investigation: Big Question 1 Songs *PFI ESV Songs 1, Tracks 3,4*

Big Question Bible Verse: Amos 4:13 Song: He Who Declares His Thought *PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 5*

Extra Song: He Who Forms the Mountains PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 6

Extra Song: For Behold PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 7

Extra Song: For Behold PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 8

DIGGING DEEP DOWN: Key Concept and Story (*introduce the Bible Truth and tell the related story*)

Bible Truth 1: God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him

Bible Truth Hymn: Be Thou My Vision, vs.1,2 *PFI ESV Songs 1, Tracks 9,10*

Bible Verse: Psalm 63:1,5 ESV

Bible Verse Song: O God, You Are My God: Psalm 63:1,5 *PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 11*

Extra Bible Verse Song: You Are My God: Psalm 63:1,5 ESV PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 12

Extra Bible Verse Song: As A Deer: Psalm 42:1,2 HCSB PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 13

Lesson 2 Story of the Saints: The Case of the Prayerless Man

TAKING ACTION: Response Activities (*choose from among these activities*)

Snack and Discussion Planner: The StreetLayer's Street

ACTS Prayer: Prayer Sheet

Bible Truth Review: Discussion Questions and Game: Storks

Bible Truth Hymn: Be Thou My Vision, vs.1,2 *PFI ESV Songs 1, Tracks 9,10*

Song, Sign Language and Song Game: Sign It, Say It, What Does It Mean? **PFI ESV Songs 1 BOOK or ONLINE**

Bible Verse Review: Psalm 63:1,5 Discussion Sheet and Game: Scrambled Eggs

Bible Verse Song: O God, You Are My God: Psalm 63:1,5 *PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 11*

Song, Sign Language and Song Game: Pass the Secret Sign **PFI ESV Songs 1 BOOK or ONLINE**

Story Review: Discussion Questions and Game: Four Corners

Case RePlay, Jr: Drama Activity for Youngest Children (children do same story actions together)

Case RePlay, Sr: Drama Activity for Most Children (children re-tell story with individual parts)

Craft: Three Pounds in Praying Hands

VIPP (Very Important Prayer Person) Prayer Time: Coloring Sheets (Back of Book) and Game: Picture Run

TAKING IT HOME: Take Home Sheet for Review and Family Devotions

PFI Pronto: Bible Truth 1, Lesson 2 **PFI ESV Prontos 1 BOOK or ONLINE**

The Case of the Prayerless ManAdapted from *Religious Stories for Young and Old*, vol. IV, compiled by Joel Beeke**Our story is called:****The Case of the Prayerless Man.****As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:**

1. Who was the man who wouldn't pray and who wanted him to pray?
2. How did he change and why?

This story doesn't take place in Bible times. It takes place in the 1860's in London, England.

What a busy, crowded city was London! People rushed to and fro on foot and by horse-drawn carriages along the cobblestone streets. Clackety-clack! Clackety-clack! You could hear the carriage wheels over the streets day and night.

Our story is about two men: a pastor named Charles Spurgeon and a Streetlayer. What is a pastor? He's a man who preaches God's Word and cares for the people in his local church. But Mr. Spurgeon wasn't just any pastor. He was one of the greatest, most famous preachers of God's Word, not only in London, but all over the world! Did you know that even today, people still love to read and learn from his sermons!

But in Spurgeon's time, people didn't just read his sermons. They went to hear him preach in person. And that's what thousands of people would do every Sunday. They would jam into the Metropolitan Tabernacle—Spurgeon's church—and listen to him tell about Jesus from the Bible. Everyone wanted to hear him preach—even the Prince of England himself! Wow!

Well, ALMOST everyone wanted to hear Spurgeon preach. The other man in our story—the Streetlayer—certainly did not. Let me tell you about him. A streetlayer is someone who lays down the big, heavy cobblestones that made up the roads of London. Streetlaying was a hard, tiring job, but this Streetlayer was pretty cheerful about it. As he pulled up damaged stones and laid down the new ones on the streets of London, he would sing in a loud, happy voice. But this Streetlayer didn't always sing as he worked. If he smashed his hand between stones, his happy singing changed to a bad temper and bad words! People covered their ears as they listened to the awful words that came out of his mouth!

But far worse than the Streetlayer's bad words, was

what was going on in his heart! This Streetlayer may have been made to know and love God, but he did not want know Him...at all! Yet God, in His kindness, had even given this man a wife and three children who loved God. Each day, he could watch them and see how good it was to know and love God, but still he wanted nothing to do with God! What a very hard heart this Streetlayer had!

No, the Streetlayer didn't want to know or love God, but his family did! They prayed for him and urged him to join them in praying and worshiping God, too. But no matter what they did or said, the Streetlayer's answer was always the same: "No! I will not pray!"

And no, the Streetlayer did not care about God, but God cared about him. God wanted him to know and love Him and He planned to change this stubborn man's heart. And so He did, using a sickness, three pounds (a pound is the name of English money, like American dollars), and Mr. Spurgeon.

It all started when the Streetlayer sat down to eat lunch with his family one day. His wife and children gave thanks before eating, as usual. And also as usual, the Streetlayer refused to pray with them. His little girl did not like this and said, "Mommy, Daddy never prays with us; you must also teach Daddy a little prayer."

This made that Streetlayer very mad! He lost his temper and yelled at his sweet little daughter, "Say, you little rascal, don't worry about me and my prayers! I will not pray!" That silenced them all, but how sad he made his little girl by his harsh words!

The next day the Streetlayer went to work laying cobblestones. As usual, he sang cheerfully, until something bad happened, then, as usual, out came all those

Story-telling Tips

Ahead of time:

1. Read the Bible verses and story. Pray!
2. Create story cue cards on index cards (or highlight text).
3. Practice telling story dramatically, timing your presentation. Shorten, if necessary to fit your allotted time.
4. Decorate area with story props that help bring your story alive.

During your presentation:

1. Maintain as much eye contact as possible as you tell the story. Point to/use props at important points in the story. Include the kids in your story with a few questions about what they think will happen or words/concepts that might be new to them.
2. Watch the kids for signs that their attention span has been reached. Shorten, if necessary.

STORY OF THE SAINTS**P.2**

bad words again! But then something happened that was not usual at all. For in God's great plan, the Streetlayer was working on Mr. Spurgeon's street that day!

Mr. Spurgeon was working in his study when first he heard the Streetlayer's loud singing, and then all those bad words. "This is terrible! I can't work with that man yelling those bad words outside my house!" Spurgeon said to himself. "I must do something about this man, but what? If I tell him to stop saying bad words, he probably won't listen. Besides, what he really needs is to know the God who made him. What shall I do?"

Then an idea came to him. He got up from his desk and went out to the Streetlayer. "Good morning, sir. I am Mr. Spurgeon," he greeted the man cheerfully. "What wonderful work you are doing on my street! It will be so much easier to travel on now," he told the Streetlayer. "Everyone enjoys your cheerful singing as you work, but sir, when you get angry, your bad words are terrible to listen to! I suppose it shall be of no use to ask you to stop talking like this because you would not be willing or able to stop it. But, may I ask you something: Do you ever pray?"

"Oh, no, here come more questions about prayer!" thought the Streetlayer. "Pray? No, I will not pray!" the man replied to Spurgeon. "That would never work for me, because you cannot pray and say bad words at the same time," he said.

"Listen here," answered Mr. Spurgeon. "I shall give you three pounds in English money, if you will promise to NEVER pray in your whole life. I would offer you two pounds more if you will promise not to say bad words anymore, but I don't think you will do that. So, let's just leave it at this: these three pounds are yours to keep, if you promise to never pray! But, as soon as you pray, you must promise me that you will give me back the three pounds," Spurgeon said, as he held out three pounds to the man.

"What a strange request! Who would expect a pastor to ask someone to promise to never pray?!" the Streetlayer thought, but that didn't stop him from wanting all that money. "Yes, I give you my word. I will not pray!" he told Mr. Spurgeon. He put the money in his pocket and went back to work. Mr. Spurgeon went home, too, and waited for what would happen next.

The rest of the morning, Mr. Spurgeon already noticed the Streetlayer's bad words had stopped. How nice! At last he could get good work done! But what had Mr. Spurgeon really done? Had he really wanted this man to never pray? Didn't he remember that the Streetlayer had a heart made to know and love God? If he wouldn't pray, how could he ever seek after God and know Him? But let's see what happens. Perhaps there was more to this promise than first it appears.

The Streetlayer went home to join his family for lunch, but this time he didn't sing as usual. He was worrying about his promise to never pray. In his heart the Streetlayer knew there was a God and he should seek Him. Yet he had promised to never speak to this God for just three pounds and this bothered him!

As the Streetlayer joined his family at the table for lunch, he noticed that the chair of his little girl was empty. "Where is Mary?" he asked.

"She's in bed," his wife replied. "She had such a bad headache this morning that I had the doctor come. She's to rest with a wet cloth on her head," she replied.

The Streetlayer worried about his little girl. He thought about how he had treated her the day before and wished he hadn't lost his temper with her just because she wanted him to pray. He worried about her sickness. Would the doctor heal her? Would she die? Could God help her if they prayed? But then the Streetlayer's promise to Mr. Spurgeon came to mind: "I will never pray," he had promised.. So the Streetlayer did not pray.

The Streetlayer didn't tell his wife about his promise to Mr. Spurgeon or the money, but it bothered him. Would he really not ask God to help his sick, little girl... all for three pounds and a promise? Soon he was so upset he couldn't even eat. He went upstairs to see his little girl instead.

"How are you? Do you have a headache?" he asked. "I hope you get better quickly," he told her.

Hello, Daddy," she sweetly replied. How sick she looked! The Streetlayer worried even more for her.

That afternoon the Streetlayer went back to work, but he did little work. He thought of his sick, little daughter. But would he pray for her? No, he would not...He COULD not! "I will not pray!" he had promised, but it was getting hard to keep it now.

At the end of the day, the Streetlayer hurried home to check on his daughter again. She was sicker! Now she thrashed about from side to side in her little bed with a terribly high fever. The doctor feared she had meningitis and might die!

At dinner, the youngest boy prayed. "Lord, bless this food, and please make Mary better."

The Streetlayer wanted to pray with them, but he remembered his promise and forced himself to stop.

He went to see his daughter. "Oh, Lord," he began to pray; but, quickly he caught himself: "No! I must not pray!" He went to the barn, then to the house. He tried to read the newspaper. But all he could think about was not praying about Mary. "Ah ha! I've got it! I cannot pray," thought the Streetlayer, "but others can! I will get my wife to pray again for her. Perhaps this will help me feel better," he decided.

He went straight to his wife and said: "Wife, how is Mary now? You've been praying for her, haven't you?"

The Streetlayer's wife could not believe her ears. "When did you begin to care that I pray?" she asked him. Then the Streetlayer told her the whole story and together they decided what to do.

The next morning, the Streetlayer went to Mr. Spurgeon's house. "Mr. Spurgeon, here are your three pounds back," the Streetlayer said. "I cannot keep my promise," he confessed. "I must pray!" He told Mr. Spurgeon about his daughter and what the Lord had done in his own heart. Mr. Spurgeon went to see little Mary and pray for her, too.

What a lot Mr. Spurgeon, the Streetlayer and his family had to praise God for! Mary got well. And the Streetlayer turned away from his old life of wanting to disobey God and trusted in Jesus as his Savior. No longer was the Streetlayer a man who would not pray to God. Now he was a man who knew God and loved Him in his heart... and he stayed that way the rest of his life!

Cracking the Case:

It's time to answer our Case Questions.

1. Who was the man who wouldn't pray and who wanted him to pray? The Streetlayer wouldn't pray to God. His family, Mr. Spurgeon (and God!) wanted him to pray.

2. How did he change and why? The Streetlayer became a praying man. His family and Mr. Spurgeon prayed for him and encouraged him to pray. God worked in his heart, helping him to turn to Him and pray.

Something For You and Me

Our Bible Truth is:

God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him

Our Bible Verse is: Psalm 63:1,5 ESV

"O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water...My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food, and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips."

Like the Streetlayer, we are made to know and love God. And like him, we can know God. How? By turning from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior. If we do, God will forgive us and make us His own special people! He will fill us with the Holy Spirit so that we know Him, love Him and live for Him more and more! And one day, He will bring us to live with Him in heaven, forever happy! *Close in prayer.*

Closing ACTS Prayer

A God, we praise You for being our Creator who gave us a heart to know You.

C God, we confess that we are sinners, like the Streetlayer was. And, even though we know that You are the One, True God, too many times we still do not seek You as we should. We need Jesus to be our Savior!

T God, we thank you for showing us who you are, especially in Jesus. Thank You for showing Yourself to us so we can know You.

S God, we ask that You would work in our hearts that we might turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Help us to know You and love You more and more.

Special Words

Cobblestones: Stones, about the size of bricks, used to make stone streets.

Streetlayer: A person who lays cobblestones to make a street.

Meningitis: A very bad sickness that would have been very hard for doctors to cure in Spurgeon's day.

ACTS PRAYER ACTIVITY

Use this sheet to write down your ACTS Prayer

Instructions:

Use this sheet to help the children apply the Bible Truth in prayer. You can use the ACTS provided or even better, have the kids think of their own applications. Also, have the children add their personal requests to the prayer, too. Lead the children in the prayer or let them pray sections, with your help. Never force a child to pray! Non-readers can participate by you whispering a section of the prayer into their ear and allowing them to pray it aloud for the group.

ADORATION:

God, we praise You for being a God we can know. We praise You for being our Maker who wants us to know and love You.

God, we praise You for being.....

Add your own Adorations:

CONFESSION:

God, we confess that we don't seek You as we should, even though You made us to know You. We're sinners! We need a Savior!

God, we have sinned against You....

Add your own Confessions:

THANKSGIVING:

Thank You, God for making us to know and love You. Thank You for helping us to know and love You--even when we don't seek You! Thank You for sending You Holy Spirit to work in our hearts and for sending Jesus to save us.

God, we thank You for...

Add your own Thanksgivings:

SUPPLICATION:

God, help us to know You better and help others to know You better, too. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Send Your Holy Spirit to work in our heart that we might know, love and obey You, more and more.

God, we need Your help...

Add your own Supplication:

SNEAKY SNACK

Can you figure out how this snack relates to the story?

Snack: The Streetlayer's Street

Graham Cracker streets with peanut butter (or Nutella or sugar-free chocolate pudding) "dirt" and raisin blocks laid on it.

Case Tie-in: God used Mr. Spurgeon to begin to work in the Streetlayer's heart as he worked on Mr. Spurgeon's street.

SOUL FOOD

Food for thought during snack time

1. What does the snack have to do with the story?

Choose a few questions from the other activity discussion sheets to talk about during this snack time.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

Directions: Read and discuss Bible Truth, using a FEW of the questions. Play game. Feel free to modify the game to fit your children.

God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him

When God created people, He made them with a special heart so they could know and love Him. This isn't the heart that pumps blood through our body. This is something very different. We can't feel this heart inside of us in the same way as we feel the heart that beats in our chest. This heart is even more amazing! THIS heart will never die—it lives forever!

The Bible also calls this heart, a spirit or a soul. And it's in this very special heart that God reveals Himself to us. God's Holy Spirit works in our heart, helping us to believe in God, turn away from our sins and to trust in Jesus as our Savior. When we do, God will work in our heart even more, making it brand new, and filling it with knowledge of Him and with more love for Him and others.

Understanding the Bible Truth

1. What did God create people with so they can know and love Him? *A heart.*
2. Is this special heart the one that we feel beat in our chest? If not, then what is it? *No. This heart is something very different from the one that pumps blood. We can't feel it or see it. And it will never die.*
3. What are other names the Bible calls this special heart? *Soul or spirit.*
4. What does God do in this very special heart? *He reveals Himself to us.*
5. What does God, the Holy Spirit do in this heart? *He is the one that works in our hearts, helping us to believe in God, turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.*
6. What kind of work does God do in our heart when we do turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior? *He makes our heart brand new, filling it with more knowledge of Him and and more love for Him and for others.*

Story Connection Questions

1. How does the case story point to the **Bible Truth: God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him**? *The Streetlayer thought he wanted nothing to do with God, but God knew the truth. Even this man was made with a heart to know and love Him—even though he was choosing not to. In the end, the Holy Spirit stirred in the Streetlayer's heart and brought it alive with a desire to know God and cry out for His help. How kind God is to us, sinners!*

Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does this hymn have to do with our Bible Verse: **Psalms 63:1,5**: "O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water...My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food, and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips."
This verse tells us that God created us with a soul--another word for this special heart-- that longs to know Him. It reminds us that only God can satisfy our heart and when we seek after Him, He satisfies our heart as much as a big glass of water satisfies us when we are thirsty, or a big, yummy meal satisfies us when we are hungry. And the better we know Him, the more joy we have.

ACTS Questions

1. What is something we can praise God for because of this Bible Truth?
Praise God for being a God we can know. Praise God for being our Maker who wants us to know and love Him.
2. What are sins we can confess to God because of this Bible Truth? *Confess that we don't seek God as we should, even though He made us to know Him. We deserve His punishment! We need Jesus to save us!*
3. What is something we can thank God for because of this Bible Truth?
Thank God for not just making us to know and love Him, but helping us to know Him and know love, even when we don't seek Him! Thank Him for sending His Holy Spirit to work in our hearts and for sending Jesus to save us.
4. What is something we can ask God for from this Bible Truth? *Ask God to help us know Him better and help others to know Him, too. Ask Him to help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus. Ask God to send His Holy Spirit to work in our hearts that we might know, love and obey God more and more.*

Life Application Questions

1. What did God give you to know Him? *A heart.*
2. Who can help you seek and find God? *God's Holy Spirit.*
3. What can God's Holy Spirit do in your heart? *He can help you to believe in God, turn away from your sins, and trust in Jesus as your Savior. He can make your heart brand-new, helping you know Him and giving you love for Him.*

The Gospel

1. God made us to know and love Him. But what must happen if we ARE to know and love Him?

God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship Him and live by His good laws. But we are all sinners who have rebelled against Him. We all deserve death--God's just, eternal punishment for our sins. How terrible! But God has good news for us. In His great mercy, God sent His Son Jesus to earth to save sinners. Yes, Jesus, the perfect Son of God, left His home in heaven and became a man. He lived the perfect life that pleases God. (He's the only one who has ever done that!) He offered it up to God His Father as the perfect sacrifice for sins when He suffered and died on the cross. Then, on the third day, Jesus rose from the dead in victory. He had fully paid for the sins of God's people, so they wouldn't have to! Now all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior will receive forgiveness of sins and eternal life with God. They will be His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. We can be God's people, too, if we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior.

Game: Storks

Materials

Three large, but soft balls

Tape

Bible Truth Questions

Preparing the Game

1. Choose 20+ questions for your game from the Bible Truth Discussion Questions, or make up your own.
2. Write the Bible Truth questions on small thin strips of paper (or make a photocopy of the Bible Truth Discussion Questions and simply cut them into strips) and put them in the bag/bowl.

Playing the Game

Divide the children into two teams, each on opposite sides of the room, facing each other. One team is "The Hunters". The other team is "The Storks." The hunters have three balls and they are to stand about twenty feet away from the storks, who are lined up, similarly to ten bowling pins. Storks are to balance on one leg without leaning on anything. They can switch from leg to leg, but must not stand on both at the same time. Read a question to the hunters. If they get it right, then one of the hunters gets three chances (3 balls) to roll the ball at the storks FAIRLY GENTLY and try to get them to put their other foot down. The Hunters score as many points as storks who lost their balance and put their foot down. Sides get switched when all the Hunters have had a turn: or, when they have been stumped by a question.

Game continues as number of questions, time, and attention span allow.

Non-competitive Option

Set a target number of points for the whole group. Challenge the children to see how many turns it takes score the target number of points. Once the target has been reached, start the game over and see how many turns it takes to reach the target the second time.

Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Quiz Questions

Have the children choose a few of the questions from the game to ask the parents/other children during TAKING IT TO OTHERS time. Help pre-readers by whispering the question in their ear and letting them ask it aloud to the parents/other children. Make sure you read the Bible verse aloud before you ask your questions.

Directions:

1. Write words to song in large print before class.
2. Play the song for the children, helping them follow along on the song sheet.
3. Discuss the song, using a few questions from the discussion sheet. *Don't use them all!*
4. Introduce sign language for key words of your choice from sign language sheet for your song. Use as few or as many as you think the children can learn.
5. Sing and sign the song. Sign language as well as large format lyrics and sheet music are found in the PFI Unit Songbook or online.
6. If desired, play the Song Game.

Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Presenting and Singing the Song

1. Sing and sign the song, encouraging the watching children/parents to join in.
2. Ask the class some of the questions listed below. The Bible Truth Connection Question is particularly good to help them understand how the song ties in with the Bible Truth.

Be Thou My Vision**Verse 1**

Be Thou my vision,
O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me,
save that Thou art:
Thou my best thought,
by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping,
Thy presence my light.

Verse 2

Be Thou my Wisdom,
And Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee
And Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father,
I, Thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling,
And I with Thee one.

Listen to it on PFI ESV Songs 1, Tracks 9,10

Understanding the Song

1. What does "Thou" mean? *Old English word for "you," often used to show respect to God.*
2. What does it mean to want God to be your vision? *We think of vision as what you see or focus on with your eyes. This person is not talking about what he sees with his eyes. He's talking about what he thinks about in his heart. The vision of your heart is what you focus on –or think about– in your heart. If God is the vision of your heart, He is the one you think about most of all.*
3. What does it mean for God to be the Lord of your heart? *A Lord is like a king. A king rules over his kingdom. His people serve him and he tells them what he wants them to do and they try to do it. God is the Lord of His people's hearts. They serve Him. He tells them what He wants them to do and they try to do it.*
4. What does "naught" mean? *Another word for "nothing."*
5. What does "naught be all else to me, save that Thou art"? *There is nothing that means as much to him as God.*
6. What does it mean that God is his "best thought, by day or by night"? *God is the best thing of everything that he can think about, day or night—anytime.*
7. What does mean for God's presence to be your light? *Not that God is like a night light so that he will never have to be in the dark. It means that God is always with him. He is always guiding him in what he should do, just like a light shines in a dark room and lets you see where you should go.*
8. Was does it mean to ask God to be your "Wisdom"? *To not depend on your own understanding but on God's to know what is best. It also means asking God to show you what He thinks as wise, to help you believe it and do it.*
9. What does it mean to ask God to be your "true Word"? *It means to ask God to help you to believe in His Word., and help you desire to live by them in all you think, say and do.*
10. Who does the writer of the song want to always be with Him? *The Lord.*
11. Who is God a great Father to? *God is a great Father, not just to Jesus, but also to all of His people.*
12. Who is like a "true son" to God? *Not just Jesus, but all of God's people.*
13. How can we have God as our true Father? How can we be His true sons? *By turning from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our own Savior.*
14. Is true sons just talking about boys/men or does it include girls/women, too? *Yes. Sons means all people.*
15. How does God dwell in His people? *The Holy Spirit lives inside their hearts.*
16. What does it mean to be one with God? *It means to be in happy fellowship with Him in your heart; and, in agreement with what He wants.*

Bible Truth Connection Question

1. How does this song relate to our Bible Truth: **God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him?**

God reveals Himself by placing in all people a spirit (or special heart), by which we can know and love God. Those who seek after God and become His people (by turning from their sins and trusting in Jesus as their Savior) have the greatest joy of knowing and loving God in their hearts now. And, they will go on knowing and loving Him more and more for all eternity.

Story Connection

1. How does this song relate to today's story? *The Streetlayer's family and Mr. Spurgeon prayed that God would work in the Streetlayer's heart and change it so that he knew and loved God. God answered these prayers. The Streetlayer changed from someone who would not pray or have anything to do with God to someone who loved God and knew that He was his best thought, by day or by night. He delighted to know God.*

Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does this hymn have to do with our Bible Verse: **Bible Verse: Psalm 63:1,5:** "O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water...My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food, and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips."

Just like water satisfies our body's thirst, so our soul will only be satisfied by knowing the God who made us. Nothing else will do. No one else will satisfy us. He is our best thought by day or by night. He is the Lord of our heart.

Life Application Questions

1. How can we be affected by the message of this song? *We can praise God for being so wonderful to know. We can ask Him to be the Lord of our heart--helping us to trust Him as our Savior. And, continuing to work in our hearts that we might know and love Him more and more.*

2. What is the first step God calls us and all people to take to know, love and obey God? *To turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.*

ACTS Questions

1. What is something we can praise God for from this hymn?

Praise God for being the Lord of the hearts of His people.

2. What are sins we can confess to God from this hymn?

That many times we do not want God to be the Lord of our heart. Many times we want to do things our way instead of His. We are sinners in need of a Savior!

3. What is something we can thank God for from this hymn?

We can thank God for always being with His people by day or by night. They know He can comfort them with thoughts of Him at anything. They are never alone.

4. What is something we can ask God for from this hymn?

That God would work in our hearts that we confess our sins, might turn from our sins and trust Jesus as our Savior. That God would be the Lord of our hearts and that He would help us to know and love Him, and be with us, by day or by night.

Gospel Question

1. Why do God's people call God their best thought by day or by night? Because of all He has done for them. What is this amazing good news of God's love? How can we know it ourselves? What is the gospel?

God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship Him and live by His good laws. But we are all sinners who have rebelled against Him. We all deserve death--God's just, eternal punishment for our sins. How terrible! But God has good news for us. In His great mercy, God sent His Son Jesus to earth to save sinners. Yes, Jesus, the perfect Son of God, left His home in heaven and became a man. He lived the perfect life that pleases God. (He's the only one who has ever done that!) He offered it up to God His Father as the perfect sacrifice for sins when He suffered and died on the cross. Then, on the third day, Jesus rose from the dead in victory. He had fully paid for the sins of God's people, so they wouldn't have to! Now all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior will receive forgiveness of sins and eternal life with God. They will be His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. We can be God's people, too, if we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior.

Song Game: Sign It, Say It, What Does It Mean?

Materials

Sign Language signs used in song, particularly choose words with important meanings you want the children to learn, such as “grace”, “redeem”, etc.

Bag or bowl

Preparing the Game

1. Cut out signs and put in bowl.

Playing the Game

1. Practice the song and signs until the children know them well. Then put all the signs we’ve learned in this bag/ bowl and mix them up.
2. Ask one of the children to choose a sign, but not show it to anyone...but you, if they need some help.
3. Ask the child to do the sign for the rest of the children and see if the other children can guess which one it is. Do the sign with the child, if desired.
4. When the children guess the sign, ask them the meaning of the word. If no one guesses the sign, put it back in the bowl to be picked again.
5. Choose another child to pick a new sign from the bag and continue.

NOTE: You might want to sing the song after you do each word or couple of words.

Game continues as number of questions, time, and attention span allow.

BIBLE VERSE REVIEW

choose a FEW questions for discussion, then choose the game and/or music activity

Meditation Version: Psalm 63:1, 5 ESV

"O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water...My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food, and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips."

Alternate Memory Version: Psalm 63:1 ESV

"O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you."

Understanding the Bible Verse

1. Who does the writer call God? What does that mean? *His God. That means that he worships God and wants to know, love and obey Him.*
2. What does it mean to earnestly seek God? *To be earnest about something to try hard to do it. The writer of this psalm is trying hard to seek God. He is trying hard to know God and live for Him.*
3. What does it mean for your soul to thirst after God and your flesh to faint for God, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water? *It doesn't mean that you need to drink a cup of water or you will faint! It is a word picture that tells us that this man really, really wanted to know God and that only God can satisfy him.*
4. What does it mean for your soul to be satisfied as with fat and rich food? *It means that knowing God is so wonderful and satisfying to your heart, just like a big meal of your favorite food is satisfying to your stomach.*
5. What does knowing God make the writer want to do with his lips? *Praise God joyfully.*

Bible Truth Connection Question

1. What does this verse have to do with the **Bible Truth: God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him?** *God gave us each a heart that desires to know and love Him. When we do know Him, He satisfies us in a way that nothing else can. The more we know Him, the more joy we have.*

Story Connection Questions

1. When did the Streetlayer begin to thirst for God? *After he had made a promise to not pray (talk to God); and especially after his little girl got sick.*

Life Application Questions

1. How can God become OUR God? How can we become God's people? *By turning from our sins, confessing them to God and trusting in Jesus as our own Savior.*
2. What can God give us when we earnestly seek Him? *He can satisfy our soul--give us the joy, rest and peace that we desire but can only find in Him.*

ACTS Questions

1. What is something we can praise God for from this Bible verse? *Praise God for being the God who satisfies us with Himself.*
2. What is something we can confess to God from this Bible verse? *Confess that many times we don't turn to God to be satisfied and happy. We choose to go to other things or people to try to be satisfied instead. We need a Savior!*
3. What is something we can thank God for from this Bible verse? *Thank God that He truly is most satisfying. Thank Him for sending Jesus to make the way for us to know God and be satisfied in Him.*
4. What is something we can ask God for from this Bible verse? *Ask God to work in our hearts, helping us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. We can ask Him to satisfy our souls with Himself. We can ask Him to help us to know Him and the joy that comes only from knowing Him..*

Gospel Question

1. God made us to earnestly seek Him, but instead all of us have turned away from Him. Is there any hope for us? Yes, there is! What is the gospel?

God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship Him and live by His good laws. But we are all sinners who have rebelled against Him. We all deserve death--God's just, eternal punishment for our sins. How terrible! But God has good news for us. In His great mercy, God sent His Son Jesus to earth to save sinners. Yes, Jesus, the perfect Son of God, left His home in heaven and became a man. He lived the perfect life that pleases God. (He's the only one who has ever done that!) He offered it up to God His Father as the perfect sacrifice for sins when He suffered and died on the cross. Then, on the third day, Jesus rose from the dead in victory. He had fully paid for the sins of God's people, so they wouldn't have to! Now all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior will receive forgiveness of sins and eternal life with God. They will be His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. We can be God's people, too, if we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior.

Game: Scrambled Eggs

Materials

Bible Verse written up in large print so that all can see
 Plastic Hollow Easter Eggs, 10 of one color for each team
 Pen and paper
 2 carpet squares or other base marker

Preparing the Game

1. Clearly print out the words to the verse on paper and cut it into 10+ sections. Number each section in sequence. Place each section in Easter eggs of the same color. Print out another copy of the verse, also numbered sequentially on another piece of paper. Repeat for each team.
2. Hide the eggs around the classroom. Place the two carpet squares down in opposite ends of the classroom.

Learning the Verse

Some or all of your children may be non- or early readers. Teach the verse in sections, having them say it after you. Repeat a few times. Add clapping or other movement as they say it.

Directions

1. If desired, lead the children in a discussion of a **FEW** of the most important questions before beginning game.
2. Explain the game to them as follows:
 Have the children form two teams seated at their bases. Give each team a written out copy of the verse and place it on their base. Assign each team a particular color of Easter egg and tell them that pieces to the verse are hidden in eggs around the room. They are to find all their eggs, remove the verse section from the egg and put it in order. They can use the copy of the verse (and numbers on each section—especially helpful for pre- and early readers) to help them put it in order. The first team to find all the verse, put it in order and recite it as a group wins.

Game continues until all the eggs have been found or as time allows.

Non-competitive Option

Don't split the children into teams. Use any color Easter egg for the pieces of the verse. Hide them around the room. Have the children take turns finding an egg and bringing it back to the group. Have the child open the egg and read (or have you read) the word/s on the piece of paper. Stick them in place on the copy of the verse. If desired, have the children say the verse each time before each "hunt", reinforcing the verse.

Optional **TAKING IT TO OTHERS** Activity: Quiz Questions

Have the children choose a few of the questions from the game to ask the parents/other children during **TAKING IT TO OTHERS** time. Help pre-readers by whispering the question in their ear and letting them ask it aloud to the parents/other children. Make sure you read the Bible verse aloud before you ask your questions.

Directions:

1. Write words to song in large print before class.
2. Play the song for the children, helping them follow along on the song sheet.
3. Discuss the song, using a few questions from the discussion sheet. *Don't use them all!*
4. Introduce sign language for key words of your choice from sign language sheet for your song. Use as few or as many as you think the children can learn.
5. Sing and sign the song. Sign language as well as large format lyrics and sheet music are found in the PFI Unit Songbook or online.
6. If desired, play the Song Game.

Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Presenting and Singing the Song

1. Sing and sign the song, encouraging the watching children/parents to join in.
2. Ask the class some of the questions listed below. The Bible Truth Connection Question is particularly good to help them understand how the song ties in with the Bible Truth.

O God, You Are My God: Psalm 63: 1,5

Refrain:

O God, You are my God, earnestly I seek You,
 O God, You are my God, earnestly I seek You
 My soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
 As in a dry and weary land, where there is no water.
 My soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
 As in a dry and weary land, where there is no water. *Refrain*

My soul will be satisfied, as with rich food,
 My soul will be satisfied, and my mouth will praise you
 My soul will be satisfied, as with rich food,
 My soul will be satisfied, and my mouth will praise you.
Refrain

Listen to it on PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 11

Song Game: Pass the Secret Sign**Materials**

Sign Language signs used in song, particularly choose words with important meanings you want the children to learn, such as "grace", "redeem", etc.

Bag or bowl
 Blindfold

Preparing the Game

1. Cut out signs and put in bowl.

Playing the Game

1. Practice the song and signs until the children know them well.
2. Have all the children stand in a tight circle, except one, "It," who will stand in the middle of the circle, blindfolded.
3. Have the children in the circle to put their hands behind their backs. Choose a sign from the bag and hand to a child in the circle, still keeping hands behind their backs, not looking at the sign.
4. When "It" says "Pass the Secret Sign", the children will begin to pass the sign around behind their backs.
5. When "It" says "Stop the Passing!" the child who has the sign freezes with the sign behind his back.
6. The child with the sign brings it around and looks at it. You can help the child practice the sign.
7. Then take the blindfold off of "It", watch the child with the card do the sign, then have "It" guess the name of the sign. (If desired, "It" can ask another child in the circle for help with their guess.)
8. The holder of the sign then becomes "It." Sing the song with all the signs, then repeat.

STORY REVIEW**P.1**

Directions: Read and discuss Bible Truth, using a FEW of the questions. Play game. Feel free to modify the game to fit your children.

General Story Questions

1. What was Reverend Spurgeon like? *He was a godly man who was a pastor of a big church in London. He loved God and he wanted all people to come to know Jesus as their own Savior.*
2. What was the Streetlayer like? *He was a man who was a good worker, but cussed and got angry a lot. He didn't think he wanted to have anything to do with God.*
3. What did the Streetlayer NOT want to do? *The Streetlayer did not want to pray.*
4. What did the Streetlayer's family think about God? *They loved and obeyed God. They prayed to Him.*
5. What did Reverend Spurgeon want everyone to know? *The good news of salvation through Jesus.*
6. What did Reverend Spurgeon give the Streetlayer three pounds to do? *To not pray.*
7. Why did the Streetlayer think he could keep his promise to Rev. Spurgeon? *Because he didn't want to pray anyway. He didn't want to have anything to do with God.*
8. Why was the little girl sick? What did the doctor say?
He was afraid it might be a terrible sickness called meningitis.
9. What made the Streetlayer want to start praying? *He wanted his little girl to get well.*
10. Who did the Streetlayer ask to pray? *His wife.*
11. Why was his wife so shocked that he would want her to pray?
Because the Streetlayer never wanted them to pray before.
12. Why did the Streetlayer return the money to Rev. Spurgeon? *Because he prayed and broke his promise.*
13. What about the Streetlayer's heart made it so that he knew he needed to pray for his daughter? *God had put in his heart, like all other people, the knowledge that He exists and that the Streetlayer was made to love and know Him.*
14. Why do you think Spurgeon made this bet with the Streetlayer? What was he counting on?
He knew that the Streetlayer was made to know and love God. He was made to pray to God. Perhaps being told NOT to pray, would make him see how much he was made to seek after God.

Bible Truth Connection Questions

1. What does this story have to do with our **Bible Truth: God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him**? *Streetlayer thought he wanted nothing to do with God, but God knew the truth. Even this man was made with a heart to know and love Him—even though he was choosing not to. In the end, the Holy Spirit stirred in the Streetlayer's heart and brought it alive with a desire to know God and cry out for His help. How kind God is to us, sinners!*

Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does the story have to do with our **Bible Verse: Psalm 63:1,5**: "O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water...My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food, and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips."
The Streetlayer seemed to be the last man with a heart thirsty to know God. But thanks to God answering His people's prayers and the Holy Spirit at work in his heart, he, too, sought after God and longed to know Him.

ACTS Questions

1. What is something we can praise God for being that we learned in our story? *Praise Him for being the kind and powerful God who worked in the Streetlayer's heart and helped him to cry out to Him and know Him as his own Savior.*
2. What is something we can confess as sin that we learned in our story? *Confess that like the Streetlayer, we sometimes do not want to talk to God or have anything to do with Him. We are sinners who need a Savior, just like he was. We all need to confess our sins to Him and ask His forgiveness! We need a Savior!*
3. What is something we can thank God for that we learned in our story? *We can thank God for sending Mr. Spurgeon to tell him about Jesus.*
4. What is something we can ask God for that we learned in our story?
We can ask God to work in our hearts, that we might want to know Him and love Him, just as He worked in the Streetlayer's heart. We can ask God to work in the hearts of others that we know who do not want to have anything to do with God. We can ask Him to change their hearts and draw them to Himself.

The Gospel

1. What message did Paul preach to the Athenians? What is the gospel?

God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship Him and live by His good laws. But we are all sinners who have rebelled against Him. We all deserve death--God's just, eternal punishment for our sins. How terrible! But God has good news for us. In His great mercy, God sent His Son Jesus to earth to save sinners. Yes, Jesus, the perfect Son of God, left His home in heaven and became a man. He lived the perfect life that pleases God. (He's the only one who has ever done that!) He offered it up to God His Father as the perfect sacrifice for sins when He suffered and died on the cross. Then, on the third day, Jesus rose from the dead in victory. He had fully paid for the sins of God's people, so they wouldn't have to! Now all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior will receive forgiveness of sins and eternal life with God. They will be His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. We can be God's people, too, if we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior.

2. How long would the Athenians wait before someone brought them that message? 600 years!!

3. Why was it so important that Paul tell the Athenians about the unknown God, even though they worshipped so many other gods? *Because even though the Athenians worshipped many gods, none of them were the Lord, the one true God. They, like all of us, had rebelled against His good laws and deserved His forever punishment. The sacrifices they made to their gods were no good. They needed to turn from their sins and trust in Jesus as the Savior who came to make the one sacrifice that could satisfy God's just punishment. Paul wanted them to turn and trust in Jesus so that they could be forgiven and be saved to live as God's people, knowing Him and loving Him forever.*

Game: Secret Agent

Materials

Various detective looking items (a hat, dark glasses, tie, suit, watch, etc)

Paper and Marker

Tape

Story Review Questions

Preparing the Game

1. Choose 20+ questions for your game from the Story Review Discussion Questions, or make up your own.
2. Write out the questions on small, thin strips of paper. (Or photocopy the review questions and cut them apart). Tape (or pin) each of these in secret places on the detective outfit, such as on the bottom of your shoe, underneath your watch band, inside the hat, on the side of the glasses, etc.

Playing the Game

Divide the children into two teams. Teams will take turn having one of their members guess where a location of a Story Review question on your detective outfit. A team gets a point for finding a question and a point for answering the question correctly. Have the children be specific in their guesses, such as: "on top of your hat" or "inside your hat", or "under your left shoe", etc. That makes for more of a challenge.. If a team is unable to answer the question correctly, the other team can try to answer it for a point.

Game continues until the children find all the questions, or as number of questions, time, and attention span allow.

Non-competitive Option

Don't split into teams. Tell the children how many questions you have hidden on your outfit and challenge them to work together to find them all and answer the questions. Keep track of how many questions they've found with tally marks on a piece of paper.

Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Quiz Questions

Have the children choose a few of the questions from the game to ask the parents/other children during TAKING IT TO OTHERS time. Help pre-readers by whispering the question in their ear and letting them ask it aloud to the parents/other children.

CASE REPLAY ACTIVITIES**P.1**

Use this guide to review the Case Story and act it out for others to enjoy!

CASE REPLAY, JR: YOUNGEST CHILDREN

Description: The children will act out the story together, everyone doing the same action/sound effect at the same time. This activity is most suitable for kindergarteners.

Materials

The Case RePlay, Jr. script for younger children

Preparation

1. Read through the script and write in the blanks along the side possible actions/sound effects the children could do to act it out.

Instructions

1. Tell the children that they will be re-enacting the story together as you tell it.
2. As you read the script, lead the children in actions/sound effects to do with you.
3. If desired, you can read the script and stop at certain sentences and ask them what a good action/sound effect would be to act out what you just read.
4. Repeat the re-enactment one or two times more.

CASE REPLAY, SR: OLDER CHILDREN

Description: The children act out the story as a three-scene play. You will narrate it using the Case RePlay, Sr. script and they will act it out (no spoken words, for the most part), with each child assuming a different character's role. This activity is most suitable for first grade and up. You will review the story, then practice it a few times before performing it for others.

Materials

The Case RePlay, Sr. script
White board or other large format paper
Costumes and props

Preparation

1. Prepare for the play by choosing costumes and props for each character in the story. Decorate the area with any scenery props.
2. Write the words "Beginning," "Middle," "End" on a large piece of paper/whiteboard with plenty of space under each heading. You will use this paper to help the children think about the story as a three-scene play, as it is presented in the script.

Instructions

1. Tell the children that they will get to act out the story as a three-scene play, with a beginning, middle and end section. Tell them that before they can act it out, they need to think it out. as you narrate it with your script.
2. Take the children's answers as they recount the story, helping them put key incidents in the right order.
3. If desired, when they have filled in their Beginning, Middle, End, read through your whole (real) script, so they hear exactly what you will have them act out.
4. Then tell the children that it's time to practice acting out the story.
5. Assign parts to each child. If you are using costumes, do NOT give them out at this point. They will be a distraction.
6. Have all the children sit on the floor or in chairs on one side of the "stage," then call the characters up in place as their part in the story comes.
7. As you read the script, guide the children in where you want them to move or do to act it out.
8. After going through the whole script once, give out any costumes and props and act out the script once or twice more.

Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Re-enacting the Story

Read the script as the children act out together (younger) or assuming different roles (older) as the other children or the parents watch.

CASE REPLAY, JR--YOUNGER KIDS (KINDERGARTEN) P.2

Welcome to our play! The name of our story is called: The Case of the Prayerless Man.

Our story takes place in London, England in the 1860's.

And now we present: "The Case of the Prayerless Man.

Actions:

Scene 1:

The Streetlayer goes home to his family for lunch. When his little girl sees her father not praying, she asks her mother to teach him a prayer. He loses his temper with her. The next day, the Streetlayer works on Reverend Spurgeon's street. Reverend Spurgeon hears the Streetlayer's singing and his bad words and makes a plan that he hopes will lead the Streetlayer to seek the Lord. He offers him three pounds to promise not to pray. The Streetlayer agrees.

Scene 2:

The Streetlayer goes home to find out that his little girl has a terrible headache and is very, very ill. He feels guilty about how he treated her the day before. He begins to want to pray. He knows he cannot and keep his promise. He goes back to work and his friends notice something is wrong. He tells them about his daughter. Then returns home to find she is worse.

Scene 3

The Streetlayer becomes so worried about his daughter that he can't stop thinking about her. He wants to pray, but can't. He asks his wife if she is praying, then finally breaks down and tells her about what happened with Mr. Spurgeon and the three pounds. In the morning the Streetlayer returns the money to Mr. Spurgeon. The Streetlayer brings Mr. Spurgeon to his house to pray for the little girl. The little girl gets well and the Streetlayer becomes a Christian. Now the man who once was without a prayer has become a man with a heart full of them.

Bible Truth Tie-In:

The Bible Truth we are learning is: **God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him.** The Streetlayer cried out to God to help his daughter and changed his stubborn heart into one that wanted to know and love Him.

CASE REPLAY, SR--OLDER KIDS (1ST GRADE AND UP) P.3

Welcome to our play! The name of our story is called: The Case of the Prayerless Man.

Our story takes place in London, England in the 1860's.

The characters in our story are: The Streetlayer and his family, other streetlayers, the doctor and Mr. Spurgeon.

And now we present: "The Case of the Prayerless Man.

Scene 1: (Beginning)

The Streetlayer goes home to his family for lunch. When his little girl sees her father not praying, she asks her mother to teach him a prayer. He loses his temper with her. The next day, the Streetlayer works on Reverend Spurgeon's street. Reverend Spurgeon hears the Streetlayer's singing and his bad words and makes a plan that he hopes will lead the Streetlayer to seek the Lord. He offers him three pounds to promise not to pray. The Streetlayer agrees.

Scene 2: (Middle)

The Streetlayer goes home to find out that his little girl has a terrible headache and is very, very ill. He feels guilty about how he treated her the day before. He begins to want to pray. He knows he cannot keep his promise. He goes back to work and his friends notice something is wrong. He tells them about his daughter. Then returns home to find she is worse.

Scene 3: (End)

The Streetlayer becomes so worried about his daughter that he can't stop thinking about her. He wants to pray, but can't. He asks his wife if she is praying, then finally breaks down and tells her about what happened with Mr. Spurgeon and the three pounds. In the morning the Streetlayer returns the money to Mr. Spurgeon. The Streetlayer brings Mr. Spurgeon to his house to pray for the little girl. The little girl gets well and the Streetlayer becomes a Christian. Now the man who once was without a prayer has become a man with a heart full of them.

Bible Truth Tie-In:

The Bible Truth we are learning is: **God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him.** The Streetlayer cried out to God to help his daughter and changed his stubborn heart into one that wanted to know and love Him.

Three Pounds in Praying Hands

Description

Children will make and decorate hands holding English coins and which fold into pray position.

Materials

Skin-toned Wonder-foam sheets, 8.5" x 11", 2 per child

10 pipe cleaners per child, preferably skin-toned.

1 yellow pipe cleaner per child

Hot glue gun

Pens, Pencils and Markers (thin-tipped, preferable)

Flat-backed craft jewels (optional)

Yellow Wonder-foam sheets OR 1 1/2" diameter round wooden pieces & gold paint/yellow markers;

OR use Template #2 or 3, cardstock and markers

Strong Glue (like Elmer's)

Preparing the Craft

1. Use Template #1 to cut out 2 pairs of hand shapes for each child.
2. Along back of one of the pairs, use the hot glue gun to glue down a skin-toned pipe cleaner from close to each tip of finger and down to palm. When you are finished, you will have five ends of pipe cleaners grouped together near the center of the palms and extending on down.
3. Glue both hand shapes together with pipe cleaners enclosed in the middle. You may want to glue more carefully around the edges for a more finished look.
4. Cut yellow pipe cleaners into lengths that can be wrapped around a finger and twisted into a ring.
5. Set out glue, craft jewels, pens, pencils and markers.
6. Cut three per child of Template #2 out of the yellow Wonder-foam rounds for each child to have three; OR set out the wooden pieces and gold paint/yellow markers; OR cut three per child of Template #2 or #3 (both sides and can glue together) out of the cardstock. (These will be the three pounds.)
7. Put the picture of hands on display within easy view of the children. (Picture #1)

Making the Craft

1. Show the sample of the craft you have made.
2. If using wooden pieces, have the children paint their "pounds" so that they will be dry by the time they finish decorating their hands. If using paper pounds, they can decorate their own pounds. Glue the 2 sides together after decorating.
3. Have the children decorate their hands. Show them hand details for the front and back of their hands, so they can add them to their hands. (Picture #2)
4. If desired they can add a ring by twisting the yellow pipe cleaner into a circle; or they can glue a jewel in place and make the ring shape out of pen or marker. They could also think about adding calluses, blisters, some dirt, etc. to make the hands look more like the Streetlayer's would have. On the other hand, they also could creatively decorate their hands with designs and patterns.
5. Finally, TEACHER should glue gun down the three coins into the palms of the hands.
6. The children can bend the hands out into a cupped hands shape to reveal the coins; then, together and up into praying hands.

Making a Bible Truth Connection

Once the children have settled into their craft, use the Bible Truth- Craft Connection Sheet to lead discussion about the craft. Note that most of these questions echo the questions on the case board, providing a review of what the children learned earlier.

Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Craft Presentation

If you are presenting the craft to other children or parents the children can hold up their crafts (or your model craft) and read their Bible Truth Connection answers to explain the importance of the craft.

CASE CRAFT**Discussion Guide****Instructions:**

As the children are settled into making their craft, ask them these questions to help them understand the craft's significance. Use the answers provided to guide the children's answers.

Discussion Questions

1. Where did our story take place?

In London, England.

2. What was the Streetlayer's family like?

They knew and loved God. They wanted their father/husband to know and love Him, too.

3. What was the Streetlayer happy to promise Mr. Spurgeon? Why?

He could have Mr. Spurgeon's three pounds if he would not pray. He didn't know or love God, so he was happy to make this promise--especially for so much money!

4. What is Bible Truth that we are learning?

God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him.

5. What does our craft have to do with our Bible Truth: God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him?

The Streetlayer knew in his heart that he was to know and love God; but he refused to seek Him. He gladly promised Mr. Spurgeon to not pray for three pounds. But when his daughter was deathly sick, the Streetlayer gave up the three pounds and cried out to God to heal her. Then, he turned to the Lord in faith. Things had turned out as Mr. Spurgeon hoped they would.

6. What can our craft help us remember?

Nothing will ever be more valuable than knowing and seeking after God.

TAKING IT TO OTHERS**Craft Presentation****Instructions:**

Have children hold up your model craft/their crafts. Choose five children (or you say) the five sections below to explain the craft's importance.

Presentation:

1. Our craft is: Three Pounds in Praying Hands.

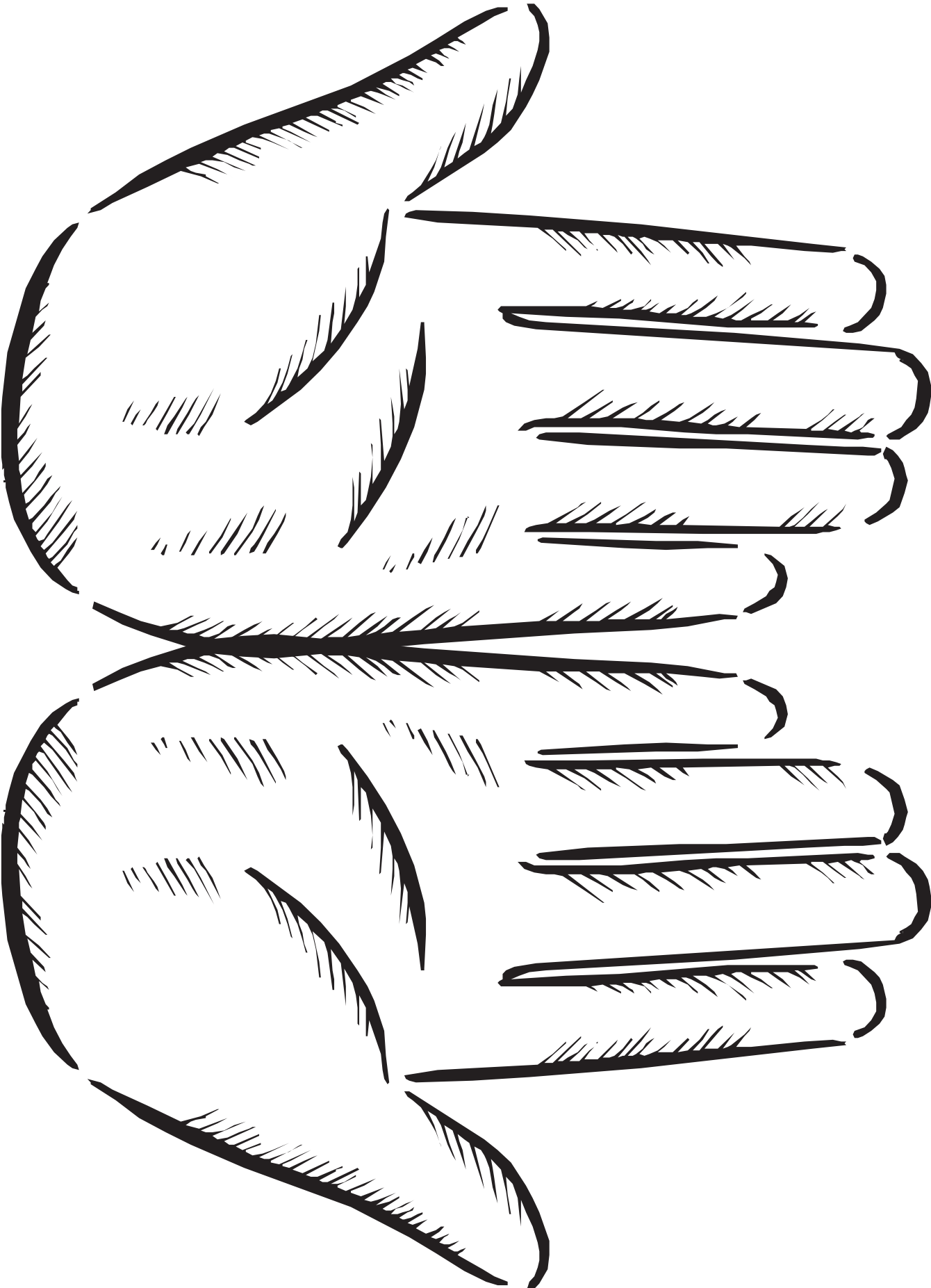
2. In London, England, there was a Streetlayer who didn't know or love God, even though his family did.

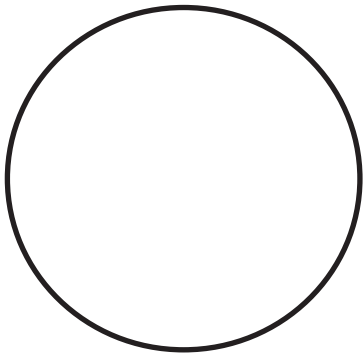
3. Our Bible Truth is: God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him.

4. The Streetlayer knew in his heart that he was to know and love God; but he refused to seek Him. He gladly promised Mr. Spurgeon to not pray for three pounds. But when his daughter was deathly sick, the Streetlayer gave up the three pounds and cried out to God to heal her. Then, he turned to the Lord in faith. Things had turned out as Mr. Spurgeon hoped they would.

5. Our craft can help us remember that nothing will ever be more valuable than knowing and seeking after God.

Note: Even non-readers can participate in presenting the craft, if you will whisper what they are to say in their ear and let them say it aloud for the others to hear.





Template #2 Coin Shape

Picture #1 Hand Details





BEFORE CLASS:**1. PICK YOUR PERSON**

VIPPs can be anyone in your church! Typically, they fall into 6 categories: Church staff, Elders, Deacons/deaconesses, Special Volunteers (people who aren't paid, but spend a lot of time helping out in particular ways), Supported Workers (a.k.a. missionaries), and Church Members.

2. GATHER YOUR FACTS

Use the VIPP Information Sheet to write down the facts about your VIPP. The information on this worksheet is used in the VIPP activities, listed in the "Choose an Activity" section below.

DURING THE ACTIVITY:**1. INTRODUCE YOUR VIPP**

Introduce your VIPP to the children, using the VIPP Information Sheet. Fill in a set of VIPP Clue Cards with the information for your VIPP. If desired, you can even have the actual person come into class for the children to meet.

Need help describing what someone does for the church in a kid-friendly way? Click on the list of common VIPPs and how to describe what they do to kids. See if your VIPP is one of these. It may save you some time.

2. PRAY!

Lead the children in praying for the VIPP. Ask the children if they would like to pray for one of the VIPPs prayer requests. Even non-readers can pray for the VIPP if you whisper the prayer request in their ear, then let them say it aloud. Never force a child to pray!

3. CHOOSE AN ACTIVITY

There are two activities you can use to help the children learn about the VIPP:

VIPP Clue Cards: These are nine coloring sheets in which children fill in the nine things they learn about the VIPP from the VIPP Information Sheet. Photocopy a set of each child. Use as few or as many of these Clue Cards as you desire. Clue Cards found at the back of this book.

VIPP Game: This is a game that uses a set of Clue Cards for one or two VIPPs.

Choose a VIPP and fill in his/her information on the VIPP Information Sheet. Fill in a set of VIPP Clue Cards with the information for your VIPP. Tell the children about the VIPP, having them fill in the VIPP Clue Cards with the key facts as they learn them. Write any words the children need to write on a white-board or other piece of paper so they can see how to spell them. Help younger children write these words on their clue cards. Ideas for how to tell the children about many common VIPPs are listed at praisefactory.org with the resources for this Bible Truth.

Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Introduce and Pray for the VIPP

If you are presenting the VIPP to other children or parents you can assign children to hold up the 10 clue cards and say what each card tells about the VIPP. (Or, you can have the children hold them up as you tell what each one means.) Then lead the children in praying for the VIPP.

Game: Picture Run

Materials

Information for two VIPPs

2 Sets of Clue Cards

Tape

Different color construction paper for each picture.

Preparing the Game

1. Fill in one set of clue sheets for each VIPP you are using.
2. Put all the Clue Cards in a bag, except for the ones with the names and pictures of the VIPPs.
3. Use tape to put up the pictures of each VIPP on a piece of construction paper. Tape each up in a different location/wall around the room.

Playing the Game

Reveal: Tell the children about the VIPPs, showing them your filled-in clue cards as you tell about them.

Review: Put the Clue Cards for the VIPPS put in a bag. Mix up. Have children stand together in middle of the room. Tell them that you will pull out a clue card, show it to them, and they are to run to the picture of the person who it belongs to. Give them the answer after everyone has run to their guessed person. Continue until all clues have been used up. (If you have a slick floor, you may want to avoid running. Make it fun by giving them a different way to go to each picture, such as skip or hop.)

VIPP INFORMATION SHEET

P.3

VIPP NAME:

WHAT VIPP LOOKS LIKE

Man or Woman? _____

Hair color? _____

Eye color? _____

FAVORITE ANIMAL

FAVORITE FOOD

FAVORITE FREE TIME ACTIVITY

WHAT VIPP DOES DURING WEEK

VIPP GROUP OF SERVICE:

Church Member

Deacon

Elder

Church Staff

Special Volunteer

Supported Worker
(Missionary)

3 WAYS VIPP SERVES CHURCH

**3 WAYS TO PRAY FOR
THE VIPP**

BIBLE TRUTH 1, LESSON 3: PLANNER/OVERVIEW

GETTING STARTED: Welcome and Opening Songs (*introduce unit and get kids moving with these songs*)

Welcome to Praise Factory: PFI: Praise Factory Investigators Theme Song *PFI Songs ESV 1, Track 1*

Rules to Help Us Worship God and Love One Another: WoGoLOA Classroom Rules Song
PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 2

Big Question Under Investigation: Big Question 1 Songs *PFI ESV Songs 1, Tracks 3,4*

Big Question Bible Verse: Amos 4:13 Song: He Who Declares His Thought *PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 5*

Extra Song: He Who Forms the Mountains PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 6

Extra Song: For Behold PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 7

Extra Song: For Behold PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 8

DIGGING DEEP DOWN: Key Concept and Story (*introduce the Bible Truth and tell the related story*)

Bible Truth 1: God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him

Bible Truth Hymn: Be Thou My Vision, vs.1,2 *PFI ESV Songs 1, Tracks 9,10*

Bible Verse: Psalm 63:1,5 ESV

Bible Verse Song: O God, You Are My God: Psalm 63:1,5 *PFI ESV Songs s 1, Track 11*

Extra Bible Verse Song: You Are My God: Psalm 63:1,5 ESV PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 12

Extra Bible Verse Song: As A Deer: Psalm 42:1,2 HCSB PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 13

Lesson 3 Old Testament Story: The Case of the Man After God's Heart
Psalm 19, 23, 24, 62; 1 Chronicles 29; 2 Samuel 5-6,15

TAKING ACTION: Response Activities (*choose from among these activities*)

Snack and Discussion Planner: Hearts of Love, Horns of Praise

ACTS Prayer: Prayer Sheet

Bible Truth Review: Discussion Questions and Game: Silly Grand March

Bible Truth Hymn: Be Thou My Vision, vs.1,2 *PFI ESV Songs 1, Tracks 9, 10*

Song, Sign Language and Song Game: Mimic Me! **PFI ESV Songs 1 BOOK or ONLINE**

Bible Verse Review: Psalm 63:1,5 Discussion Sheet and Game: Ball Circle Toss

Bible Verse Song: O God, You Are My God: Psalm 63:1,5 *PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 11*

Song, Sign Language and Song Game: Word Take Away **PFI ESV Songs 1 BOOK or ONLINE**

Story Review: Discussion Questions and Game: Tell the Truth Basketball

Case RePlay, Jr: Drama Activity for Youngest Children (children do same story actions together)

Case RePlay, Sr: Drama Activity for Most Children (children re-tell story with individual parts)

Craft: David's Harp

VIPP (Very Important Prayer Person) Prayer Time: Coloring Sheets (Back of Book) & Game: Crabbin' Around

TAKING IT HOME: Take Home Sheet for Review and Family Devotions

PFI Pronto: Bible Truth 1, Lesson 3 **PFI ESV Prontos 1 BOOK or ONLINE**

The Case of the Man After God's Heart Psalm 19, 23, 24, 62; 1 Chronicles 29; 2 Samuel 5-6,15

Our story is: The Case of the Man After God's Heart.

As you listen to the story, see if you can figure out:

1. Who was the man after God's own heart? What does that mean?
2. How did God reveal himself to this man and help him?

This story takes place in Old Testament times, about 1000 years before Jesus lived on earth.

Out in the hills of Judah, not far from the village of Bethlehem, lived a man named Jesse and his family. Now Jesse's family might not have seemed special at first glance. They were farmers and shepherds, just like many others who lived in Bethlehem. But in God's eyes, there was something very special about this family—and particularly, the youngest son in this family.

It wasn't something on the outside that made this son special to God. It didn't have to do with how handsome or strong or smart he was. The "something special" had to do with something that was inside him. For there inside his heart was something that pleased God so much that God gave this son of Jesse the highest compliment of all: God called him "a man after His (God's) own heart."

What does it mean to be a man after God's own heart? It means to have a heart full of wanting to know, love and obey God. It's a heart that is thirsty for God, just like we are thirsty for water on a hot day. Nothing but God would satisfy the heart of young man!

What was the name of this son? Perhaps you can guess. It was David. He was the man after God's own heart! God had done a wonderful work in David's heart. He helped David know that He was the one, true God. He gave David faith in Him and love for Him. He helped David want to live for Him. So much so, that only knowing and loving God truly satisfied David. And so, everywhere he went, and everything he saw and did, David was reminded of his wonderful God.

Sometimes David would take out his harp and make up his own songs to sing to God. He sang: "The earth is the LORD's and everything in it, the world and all who live in it" (Psalm 24:1). At night when he was out with

his father's flocks of sheep, David would look up at the skies and think: "The heavens declare the glory of God, the skies proclaim the work of his hands" (Psalm 19:1). During the day, David would look up at the blue sky and puffy, white clouds as they floated above the beautiful, grassy hills and he would exclaim: "Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies. Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, your justice like the great deep. O LORD, you preserve both man and beast. How priceless is your unfailing love!" (Psalm. 36:5-6).

David thought about God as he took care of his father's sheep. He led them to grassy meadows to feed and rest. He rescued them out of holes with his shepherd's staff. He chased away hungry lions and bears with the sharp, spiky nails of his rod. As David took care of the sheep, he thought about how God cared for him: "The LORD is my shepherd, I will not be in need. He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters.... His rod and his staff they comfort me," he sang. (Psalm 23:1-2, 4)

God blessed David in many ways. He chose David to be king over His people, Israel, and He helped him to lead them well. God gave David and his soldiers victory over all their enemies. He gave David the love of the people of Israel! He blessed David with a big family; a beautiful, cedar palace to live in; and lots and lots of money. Oh, how great were God's blessings to David!

But what would all these blessings do in David's heart? Would they make him proud? Would he stop seeking God and just be satisfied with all of God's blessings instead? No, he would not! Even when all these

Story-telling Tips

Ahead of time:

1. Read the Bible verses and story. Pray!
2. Create story cue cards on index cards (or highlight text).
3. Practice telling story dramatically, timing your presentation. Shorten, if necessary to fit your allotted time.
4. Decorate area with story props that help bring your story alive.

During your presentation:

1. Maintain as much eye contact as possible as you tell the story. Point to/use props at important points in the story. Include the kids in your story with a few questions about what they think will happen or words/concepts that might be new to them.
2. Watch the kids for signs that their attention span has been reached. Shorten, if necessary.

things happened to David, David just praised God more. David made up new songs to praise God, the true King and the Giver of all the good things he enjoyed.

But David wasn't satisfied with just worshipping God himself. He wanted everyone to worship the LORD. So David made plans to build a big, beautiful Temple where all could come to worship God. David didn't even wait until the Temple was built to lead the people in praising the LORD. No! Long before even the first stone of the Temple would be put in place, David had 16,000 men come and serve before the Tabernacle and the Ark of the Covenant.

Each day these men would lead the people in offering sacrifices and praising God. Did you know that David chose 4000 of these men just to be teachers, singers and musicians? Their job was to teach the people about God and to lead them in singing praises to Him. Lyres, harps, flutes, trumpets and cymbals would sound out as the great choirs of these worship leaders led the people in praising the LORD. David would stand in front with them, saying, "Praise be to you, O LORD, God of our father Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. Yours is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is Yours. Yours, O LORD, is the kingdom; You are exalted as head over all. Wealth and honor come from You: You are the ruler of all things. In Your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all. Now, our God, we give You thanks, and praise Your glorious name" (1 Chronicles 29:10-13).

Yes, David was a man who wanted to know and love God with all his heart. But let's get one thing straight: that didn't mean David was a perfect man. David was a sinner, just like you and me. And don't think that just because he loved God that he lived a perfectly happy life. Sad things happened to David, just like they do to you and me, too.

One of the saddest things in David's life happened when he was an old man. His son Absalom came up with a plan to kill him and make himself king in his place. Absalom talked many people into rebelling against David, too—even some of David's closest friends! Can you imagine how sad David was? His own son getting some of his best friends to help kill him!

Absalom's plan worked, in part. He didn't kill David, but he made him leave his beautiful palace in Jerusalem and run away to the dry, lonely desert of Judah for safety. As David ran away, some people yelled mean things and threw rocks at him! He! Their king!

What was inside David's heart as all these sad things happened to him? Would he stop thinking about God? Would he stop wanting to know and love Him now?

No, David would not! David picked up his harp, even out there in the wilderness and sang this song, "O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water... Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you. So I will bless you as long as I live; in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food, and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips." (Psalm 63:1,3-5)

Maybe he did not have a palace any more. Maybe his son didn't love him any more. Maybe people threw stones at him and called him bad names. But David still knew God in his heart. He knew God would always be with him and He was all that David really needed.

David was right! God did sustain him through all those hard days. And after a while, Absalom and his helpers were defeated. David returned to Jerusalem and ruled as king until he was a very old man.

At last it came time for David to die. What was inside David's heart then? Did he worry what would happen to him when he died? Would God take care of him even in death? David didn't worry. He knew God would take care of him! Once he wrote a song about this. "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever," he wrote (Psalm 23:6). How happy David knew he soon would be! Yes, he would have to die, but then he would get to be live face to face forever with the God he had loved and known in his heart for so many years! And that would be best of all!

Cracking the Case:

It's time to answer our Case Questions.

1. Who was the man after God's own heart? What does that mean? David. It meant that David loved God and trusted Him to be who He was--the one, true God!

2. How did God reveal himself to this man in his heart and help him? God's Holy Spirit whispered into David's heart the truths he had learned from the Bible. He reminded David that God could be trusted to be who He said He was. He would always take care of David. This helped David step out in faith and do courageous things to the glory of God.

Something For You and Me

Our Bible Truth is:
God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him

Our Bible Verse is: Psalm 63:1,5

"O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water...My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food, and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips."

The words of this psalm were one of the songs written by David in some of his most difficult times. He knew only the LORD could help him through! How he loved the LORD!

What about you and me? What will we do with the special heart that God has put in us to know and love Him? Let's ask God to work in our heart today, helping us to know, love and obey God, like David did.

What about you and me? What will we do with the special heart that God has put in us to know and love Him? Let's ask God to work in our heart today, helping us to know, love and obey God, like David did.

Close in prayer.

Closing ACTS Prayer

A God, we praise You for being our Creator who gave us a heart to know You.

C God, we confess that many times when bad things happen to us, we are not like David. We get upset with You and do not trust You. We need Jesus to be our Savior!

T God, we thank You for inspiring David to write down his psalms so we can know them and sing them, too.

S God, work in our hearts! Help us turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Work in our heart like you worked in David's, helping us to love and know You, more and more. Help us to trust You like David did, even when very hard things happened to him.

Special Words

Glory of God: In heaven, God's glory appears around Him kind of like a beautiful, shiny light. But anything that shows how beautiful and wonderful God is, tells us something of God's glory.

Righteousness: Without any sin. Reflecting God's goodness, fairness and love.

Rod: A shepherd's weapon made from the root of a tree that can be used to hit a wild animal or other enemy that threatens his sheep's safety.

Staff: A stick (often with a curved top end) that a shepherd carries to guide and sometimes rescue his sheep.

Tabernacle: The portable worship tent that God commanded the Israelites to make.

Ark of the Covenant: A special golden box with angels on top of it. It contained the 10 Commandments and a few other things. It was kept in the holiest part of the Tabernacle and then in the Temple. Prayers and offerings for the sins of the people were made at it by the high priest only.

ACTS PRAYER ACTIVITY

Use this sheet to write down your ACTS Prayer

Instructions:

Use this sheet to help the children apply the Bible Truth in prayer. You can use the ACTS provided or even better, have the kids think of their own applications. Also, have the children add their personal requests to the prayer, too. Lead the children in the prayer or let them pray sections, with your help. Never force a child to pray! Non-readers can participate by you whispering a section of the prayer into their ear and allowing them to pray it aloud for the group.

ADORATION:

God, we praise You for being a God we can know. We praise You for being our Maker who wants us to know and love You.

God, we praise You for being.....

Add your own Adorations:

CONFESSION:

God, we confess that we don't seek You as we should, even though You made us to know You. We're sinners! We need a Savior!

God, we have sinned against You....

Add your own Confessions:

THANKSGIVING:

Thank You, God for making us to know and love You. Thank You for helping us to know and love You--even when we don't seek You! Thank You for sending You Holy Spirit to work in our hearts and for sending Jesus to save us.

God, we thank You for...

Add your own Thanksgivings:

SUPPLICATION:

God, help us to know You better and help others to know You better, too. Help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. Send Your Holy Spirit to work in our heart that we might know, love and obey You, more and more.

God, we need Your help...

Add your own Supplication:

SNEAKY SNACK

Can you figure out how this snack ties in with our case?

Snack: Hearts of Love, Horns of Praise

Serve cut-in-half strawberry hearts to remind us of David's heart after God. And, "Bugle" corn snacks to remind us of the horns David and the musicians would have used in leading the people worship.

This is only a suggestion. Feel free to modify. Be mindful of allergy issues among your children!

Case Tie-in: David was a man after God's own heart. He loved God and longed to know Him more and serve Him always. He led others in praising God, too, such as the time he led the people of Jerusalem in praising God with songs and trumpets as the Ark was brought to Jerusalem.

SOUL FOOD

Food for thought during snack time

1. What does the snack have to do with the story?

Choose a few questions from the other activity discussion sheets to talk about during this snack time.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

Directions: Read and discuss Bible Truth, using a FEW of the questions. Play game. Feel free to modify the game to fit your children.

God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him

When God created people, He made them with a special heart so they could know and love Him. This isn't the heart that pumps blood through our body. This is something very different. We can't feel this heart inside of us in the same way as we feel the heart that beats in our chest. This heart is even more amazing! THIS heart will never die--it lives forever!

The Bible also calls this heart, a spirit or a soul. And it's in this very special heart that God reveals Himself to us. God's Holy Spirit works in our heart, helping us to believe in God, turn away from our sins and to trust in Jesus as our Savior. When we do, God will work in our heart even more, making it brand new, and filling it with knowledge of Him and with more love for Him and others.

Understanding the Bible Truth

1. What did God create people with so they can know and love Him? *A heart.*
2. Is this special heart the one that we feel beat in our chest? If not, then what is it? *No. This heart is something very different from the one that pumps blood. We can't feel it or see it. And it will never die.*
3. What are other names the Bible calls this special heart? *Soul or spirit.*
4. What does God do in this very special heart? *He reveals Himself to us.*
5. What does God, the Holy Spirit do in this heart? *He is the one that works in our hearts, helping us to believe in God, turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.*
6. What kind of work does God do in our heart when we do turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior? *He makes our heart brand new, filling it with more knowledge of Him and and more love for Him and for others.*

Story Connection Questions

1. How does the case story point to the **Bible Truth: God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him**? *David loved God with all of his heart, as God meant us to love Him. David always longed to know God even more. He looked forward to the day when he did not just know God in his heart, but would live before Him in heaven.*

Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does this hymn have to do with our Bible Verse: **Psalms 63:1,5**: "O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water...My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food, and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips."
This verse tells us that God created us with a soul--another word for this special heart-- that longs to know Him. It reminds us that only God can satisfy our heart and when we seek after Him, He satisfies our heart as much as a big glass of water satisfies us when we are thirsty, or a big, yummy meal satisfies us when we are hungry. And the better we know Him, the more joy we have.

ACTS Questions

1. What is something we can praise God for because of this Bible Truth?
Praise God for being a God we can know. Praise God for being our Maker who wants us to know and love Him.
2. What are sins we can confess to God because of this Bible Truth? *Confess that we don't seek God as we should, even though He made us to know Him. We deserve His punishment! We need Jesus to save us!*
3. What is something we can thank God for because of this Bible Truth?
Thank God for not just making us to know and love Him, but helping us to know Him and know love, even when we don't seek Him! Thank Him for sending His Holy Spirit to work in our hearts and for sending Jesus to save us.
4. What is something we can ask God for because of this Bible Truth?
Ask God to help us know Him better and help others to know Him, too. Ask Him to help us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus. Ask God to send His Holy Spirit to work in our hearts that we might know, love and obey God more and more.

Life Application Questions

1. What did God give you to know Him? *A heart.*
2. Who can help you seek and find God? *God's Holy Spirit.*
3. What can God's Holy Spirit do in your heart? *He can help you to believe in God, turn away from your sins, and trust in Jesus as your Savior. He can make your heart brand-new, helping you know Him and giving you love for Him.*

The Gospel

1. God made us to know and love Him. But what must happen if we ARE to know and love Him?
God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship Him and live by His good laws. But we are all sinners who have rebelled against Him. We all deserve death--God's just, eternal punishment for our sins. How terrible! But God has good news for us. In His great mercy, God sent His Son Jesus to earth to save sinners. Yes, Jesus, the perfect Son of God, left His home in heaven and became a man. He lived the perfect life that pleases God. (He's the only one who has ever done that!) He offered it up to God His Father as the perfect sacrifice for sins when He suffered and died on the cross. Then, on the third day, Jesus rose from the dead in victory. He had fully paid for the sins of God's people, so they wouldn't have to! Now all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior will receive forgiveness of sins and eternal life with God. They will be His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. We can be God's people, too, if we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior.

Game: Silly Grand March

Materials

CD and CD player
Small bowl or bag
Bible Truth Questions

Preparing the Game

1. Choose 20+ questions for your game from the Bible Truth Discussion Questions, or make up your own.
2. Write the Bible Truth questions on small thin strips of paper (or make a photocopy of the Bible Truth Discussion Questions and simply cut them into strips) and put them in the bag/bowl.

Playing the Game

Have the children form partners, then form a big double circle. Tell the children to move however you command them to move, such as march, walk, skip, tip toes, big knee bends, pat head, fly like a bird, etc. (BUT NOT RUN!!!) when you play the music. But when the music stops, they and their partner are to grab hands and sit down as quickly as possibly. The last pair to sit down become the Question Choosers for the class. If the class answers it correctly, then the pair is added back into the group immediately. If not, then the pair stays out until another round when a correct answer is given to a question. (Feel free to add back incorrectly answered questions into the bag).

Game continues as number of questions, time, and attention span allow.

NOTE: Have the children who are "out" help make up actions for the other children to do, put them in charge of the music, etc. along with you. This will keep them happily occupied as they continue.

Non-competitive Option

Don't exclude the Question Choosers from the game, even if class gets the wrong answer.

Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Quiz Questions

Have the children choose a few of the questions from the game to ask the parents/other children during TAKING IT TO OTHERS time. Help pre-readers by whispering the question in their ear and letting them ask it aloud to the parents/other children. Make sure you read the Bible verse aloud before you ask your questions.

Directions:

1. Write words to song in large print before class.
2. Play the song for the children, helping them follow along on the song sheet.
3. Discuss the song, using a few questions from the discussion sheet. *Don't use them all!*
4. Introduce sign language for key words of your choice from sign language sheet for your song. Use as few or as many as you think the children can learn.
5. Sing and sign the song. Sign language as well as large format lyrics and sheet music are found in the PFI Unit Songbook or online.
6. If desired, play the Song Game.

Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Presenting and Singing the Song

1. Sing and sign the song, encouraging the watching children/parents to join in.
2. Ask the class some of the questions listed below. The Bible Truth Connection Question is particularly good to help them understand how the song ties in with the Bible Truth.

Be Thou My Vision

Verse 1

Be Thou my vision,
O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me,
save that Thou art:
Thou my best thought,
by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping,
Thy presence my light.

Listen to it on PFI ESV Songs 1, Tracks 9,10

Understanding the Song

1. What does "Thou" mean? *Old English word for "you," often used to show respect to God.*
2. What does it mean to want God to be your vision? *We think of vision as what you see or focus on with your eyes. This person is not talking about what he sees with his eyes. He's talking about what he thinks about in his heart. The vision of your heart is what you focus on –or think about– in your heart. If God is the vision of your heart, He is the one you think about most of all.*
3. What does it mean for God to be the Lord of your heart? *A Lord is like a king. A king rules over his kingdom. His people serve him and he tells them what he wants them to do and they try to do it. God is the Lord of His people's hearts. They serve Him. He tells them what He wants them to do and they try to do it.*
4. What does "naught" mean? *Another word for "nothing."*
5. What does "naught be all else to me, save that Thou art"? *There is nothing that means as much to him as God.*
6. What does it mean that God is his "best thought, by day or by night"? *God is the best thing of everything that he can think about, day or night—anytime.*
7. What does mean for God's presence to be your light? *Not that God is like a night light so that he will never have to be in the dark. It means that God is always with him. He is always guiding him in what he should do, just like a light shines in a dark room and lets you see where you should go.*
8. Was does it mean to ask God to be your "Wisdom"? *To not depend on your own understanding but on God's to know what is best. It also means asking God to show you what He thinks as wise, to help you believe it and do it.*
9. What does it mean to ask God to be your "true Word"? *It means to ask God to help you to believe in His Word., and help you desire to live by them in all you think, say and do.*
10. Who does the writer of the song what to always be with Him? *The Lord.*
11. Who is God a great Father to? *God is a great Father, not just to Jesus, but also to all of His people.*
12. Who is like a "true son" to God? *Not just Jesus, but all of God's people.*
13. How can we have God as our true Father? How can we be His true sons? *By turning from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our own Savior.*
14. Is true sons just talking about boys/men or does it include girls/women, too? *Yes. Sons means all people.*
15. How does God dwell in His people? *The Holy Spirit lives inside their hearts.*
16. What does it mean to be one with God? *It means to be in happy fellowship with Him in your heart; and, in agreement with what He wants.*

Bible Truth Connection Question

1. How does this song relate to our Bible Truth: **God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him?**

God reveals Himself by placing in all people a spirit (or special heart), by which we can know and love God. Those who seek after God and become His people (by turning from their sins and trusting in Jesus as their Savior) have the greatest joy of knowing and loving God in their hearts now. And, they will go on knowing and loving Him more and more for all eternity.

Story Connection

1. How does this song relate to today's story? *David was a man after God's heart. Throughout the night and the day, David thought about God and how to please Him. Nothing else meant as much to David as the LORD.*

Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does this hymn have to do with our Bible Verse: **Psalm 63:1,5:** "O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water...My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food, and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips."

Just like water satisfies our body's thirst, so our soul will only be satisfied by knowing the God who made us. Nothing else will do. No one else will satisfy us. He is our best thought by day or by night. He is the Lord of our heart.

Life Application Questions

1. How can we be affected by the message of this song? *We can praise God for being so wonderful to know. We can ask Him to be the Lord of our heart--helping us to trust Him as our Savior. And, continuing to work in our hearts that we might know and love Him more and more.*

2. What is the first step God calls us and all people to take to know, love and obey God? *To turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior.*

ACTS Questions

1. What is something we can praise God for from this hymn?

Praise God for being the Lord of the hearts of His people.

2. What are sins we can confess to God from this hymn?

That many times we do not want God to be the Lord of our heart. Many times we want to do things our way instead of His. We are sinners in need of a Savior!

3. What is something we can thank God for from this hymn?

We can thank God for always being with His people by day or by night. They know He can comfort them with thoughts of Him at anything. They are never alone.

4. What is something we can ask God for from this hymn?

That God would work in our hearts that we confess our sins, might turn from our sins and trust Jesus as our Savior. That God would be the Lord of our hearts and that He would help us to know and love Him, and be with us, by day or by night.

Gospel Question

1. Why do God's people call God their best thought by day or by night? Because of all He has done for them.

What is this amazing good news of God's love? How can we know it ourselves? What is the gospel?

God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship Him and live by His good laws. But we are all sinners who have rebelled against Him. We all deserve death--God's just, eternal punishment for our sins. How terrible! But God has good news for us. In His great mercy, God sent His Son Jesus to earth to save sinners. Yes, Jesus, the perfect Son of God, left His home in heaven and became a man. He lived the perfect life that pleases God. (He's the only one who has ever done that!) He offered it up to God His Father as the perfect sacrifice for sins when He suffered and died on the cross. Then, on the third day, Jesus rose from the dead in victory. He had fully paid for the sins of God's people, so they wouldn't have to! Now all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior will receive forgiveness of sins and eternal life with God. They will be His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. We can be God's people, too, if we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior.

Song Game: Mimic Me!

Materials

Sign Language

Song

Preparing the Game

None.

Playing the Game

1. Practice the song and signs until the children know them well. Choose a person to be the leader and let them decide upon an action for everyone to do as they sing the song, such as jump on one foot, etc.
2. Sing the song while doing the chosen action.
3. Select another child to be the leader.
4. If desired, you can choose a different action for different important words in the song, such as jump on one foot when you sing the word "grace", but clap your hands when you sing the word "Jesus". Ask the children the meaning of each of the words before adding in their action.

Game continues as number of questions, time, and attention span allow.

choose a FEW questions for discussion, then choose the game and/or music activity

Meditation Version: Psalm 63:1, 5 ESV

"O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water...My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food, and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips."

Alternate Memory Version: Psalm 63:1 ESV

"O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you."

Understanding the Bible Verse

1. Who does the writer call God? What does that mean? *His God. That means that he worships God and wants to know, love and obey Him.*
2. What does it mean to earnestly seek God? *To be earnest about something to try hard to do it. The writer of this psalm is trying hard to seek God. He is trying hard to know God and live for Him.*
3. What does it mean for your soul to thirst after God and your flesh to faint for God, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water? *It doesn't mean that you need to drink a cup of water or you will faint! It is a word picture that tells us that this man really, really wanted to know God and that only God can satisfy him.*
4. What does it mean for your soul to be satisfied as with fat and rich food? *It means that knowing God is so wonderful and satisfying to your heart, just like a big meal of your favorite food is satisfying to your stomach.*
5. What does knowing God make the writer want to do with his lips? *Praise God joyfully.*

Bible Truth Connection Question

1. What does this verse have to do with the **Bible Truth: God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him?** *God gave us each a heart that desires to know and love Him. When we do know Him, He satisfies us in a way that nothing else can. The more we know Him, the more joy we have.*

Story Connection Questions

1. When did David thirst for God? *Many, many times in his life. As a believer, he thirsted each day for God. Especially during hard times, like when he had to flee from Absalom, he thirsted for God and found his joy and peace in God.*

Life Application Questions

1. How can God become OUR God? How can we become God's people? *By turning from our sins, confessing them to God and trusting in Jesus as our own Savior.*
2. What can God give us when we earnestly seek Him? *He can satisfy our soul--give us the joy, rest and peace that we desire but can only find in Him.*

ACTS Questions

1. What is something we can praise God for from this Bible verse? *Praise God for being the God who satisfies us with Himself.*
2. What is something we can confess to God from this Bible verse? *Confess that many times we don't turn to God to be satisfied and happy. We choose to go to other things or people to try to be satisfied instead. We need a Savior!*
3. What is something we can thank God for from this Bible verse? *Thank God that He truly is most satisfying. Thank Him for sending Jesus to make the way for us to know God and be satisfied in Him.*
4. What is something we can ask God for from this Bible verse? *Ask God to work in our hearts, helping us to turn away from our sins and trust in Jesus as our Savior. We can ask Him to satisfy our souls with Himself. We can ask Him to help us to know Him and the joy that comes only from knowing Him..*

Gospel Question

1. God made us to earnestly seek Him, but instead all of us have turned away from Him. Is there any hope for us? Yes, there is! What is the gospel?

God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship Him and live by His good laws. But we are all sinners who have rebelled against Him. We all deserve death--God's just, eternal punishment for our sins. How terrible! But God has good news for us. In His great mercy, God sent His Son Jesus to earth to save sinners. Yes, Jesus, the perfect Son of God, left His home in heaven and became a man. He lived the perfect life that pleases God. (He's the only one who has ever done that!) He offered it up to God His Father as the perfect sacrifice for sins when He suffered and died on the cross. Then, on the third day, Jesus rose from the dead in victory. He had fully paid for the sins of God's people, so they wouldn't have to! Now all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior will receive forgiveness of sins and eternal life with God. They will be His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. We can be God's people, too, if we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior.

Ball Circle Toss

Materials

Bible Verse written up in large print so that all can see
Foam or other soft surface ball

Preparing the Game

None.

Learning the Verse

Some or all of your children may be non- or early readers. Teach the verse in sections, having them say it after you. Repeat a few times. Add clapping or other movement as they say it.

Directions

1. If desired, lead the children in a discussion of a **FEW** of the most important questions before beginning game.
2. Explain the game to them as follows:
Have the children spread out in a circle, arm's length apart. Explain that everyone together will chant the verse slowly, word by word, and toss the ball to another child with each word chanted. They want to try to chant the whole verse without dropping the ball. Speed up the pace of the chanting as the children get good at chanting and catching.

Game continues as time and attention span allow.

Alternative Game Version:

1. Individual chant version: After the children can get through the verse without dropping the ball and chanting the verse together, have them try to get through the entire verse with only the person throwing the ball saying the next word.
2. No Hands Version: Have the children sit on the floor and roll the ball to each other. They must try to trap the ball with their legs, etc. (no hands) instead of trying to catch it.

Optional **TAKING IT TO OTHERS** Activity: Quiz Questions

Have the children choose a few of the questions from the game to ask the parents/other children during **TAKING IT TO OTHERS** time. Help pre-readers by whispering the question in their ear and letting them ask it aloud to the parents/other children. Make sure you read the Bible verse aloud before you ask your questions.

Directions:

1. Write words to song in large print before class.
2. Play the song for the children, helping them follow along on the song sheet.
3. Discuss the song, using a few questions from the discussion sheet. *Don't use them all!*
4. Introduce sign language for key words of your choice from sign language sheet for your song. Use as few or as many as you think the children can learn.
5. Sing and sign the song. Sign language as well as large format lyrics and sheet music are found in the PFI Unit Songbook or online.
6. If desired, play the Song Game.

Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Presenting and Singing the Song

1. Sing and sign the song, encouraging the watching children/parents to join in.
2. Ask the class some of the questions listed below. The Bible Truth Connection Question is particularly good to help them understand how the song ties in with the Bible Truth.

O God, You Are My God: Psalm 63: 1,5

Refrain:

O God, You are my God, earnestly I seek You,
O God, You are my God, earnestly I seek You
My soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
As in a dry and weary land, where there is no water.
My soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
As in a dry and weary land, where there is no water. *Refrain*

My soul will be satisfied, as with rich food,
My soul will be satisfied, and my mouth will praise you
My soul will be satisfied, as with rich food,
My soul will be satisfied, and my mouth will praise you.
Refrain

Listen to it on PFI ESV Songs 1, Track 11

Song Game: Word Take Away

Materials

Sign Language Signs and Song
White board and marker
Eraser

Preparing the Game

1. Write the words to the song on a white board.

Playing the Game

1. After children have learned the song and signs well, then tell the children that you are going to leave out words from the song (that you've learned signs for) and just do the sign in its place.
2. Have the children help you choose a word to take out. Erase the word from the board. Review the sign the for erased word.
3. Sing the song, trying to remember to NOT sing the word and do only the sign.
4. Continue to take out words until all of the words (with signs) have been taken out.

Game continues as number of questions, time, and attention span allow.

Directions: Read and discuss Bible Truth, using a FEW of the questions. Play game. Feel free to modify the game to fit your children.

General Story Questions

1. What did God call David and why? *God called David a man after His own heart because he had in his heart a great desire to know and love God.*
2. What did David think about when he looked at the stars, the skies and the hills? *They all showed how great is the God who created them all. They declare His glory because He made them.*
3. What did David think about God when he was shepherd of his sheep? *That God is His shepherd, the One who takes care of him and gives him everything he needs.*
4. What good things did David enjoy when he became king of Israel? *A big family, a big palace, lots of servants and beautiful things. The best of everything there was.*
5. What happened to Israel's enemies when David was king? *The LORD helped David to win against them in battle.*
6. What did the people think of David when he was king? *They loved him and respected him.*
7. How did David show God that even as king that God was still most important in his heart? *David kept writing songs about the LORD. He led the people in worship of Him at the Tabernacle. He did not forget God when he received all these blessings.*
8. What was worship at the Tabernacle like? *Lots of priests, with different music instruments, making sacrifices to the LORD and leading the people in praises to Him.*
9. Which of David's son turned against David and what did he try to do? *Absalom. He tried to kill David and become king in his place.*
10. Where did David flee to? *The wilderness of Judah.*
11. What happened to David while he fled to the desert of Judah? *People yelled names at him and even threw stones.*
12. How did David show that he still loved God most of all when he was in the desert? *He still kept praising God. He still kept writing and singing songs to Him and trusting in Him.*
13. What did David look forward to happening when he died? *To being with the LORD forever.*

Bible Truth Connection Questions

1. What does this story have to do with our **Bible Truth: God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him**? *David loved God with all of his heart, as God meant us to love Him. David always longed to know God even more. He looked forward to the day when he did not just know God in his heart, but would live before Him in heaven.*

Bible Verse Connection Question

1. What does the story have to do with our **Bible Verse: Psalm 63:1,5**: "O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water...My soul will be satisfied as with fat and rich food, and my mouth will praise you with joyful lips." *David's heart thirsted after God like this. These are actually the part of a song he wrote when he was in the Wilderness of Judah. Nothing was better to David than knowing and loving God!*

ACTS Questions

1. What is something we can praise God for being that we learned in our story? *Praise Him for being the Giver of our hearts that we might know and love Him.*
2. What is something we can confess as sin that we learned in our story? *Confess that many times when bad things happen to us, we are not like David. We get upset with God and do not trust Him. We need a Savior! Jesus!*
3. What is something we can thank God for that we learned in our story? *We can thank God for David's psalms to sing and praise God with. We can thank Him for giving us the beauties of this world to know what He is like.*
4. What is something we can ask God for that we learned in our story? *We can ask God to work in our hearts: to help us to love and know God, like David did. We can ask Him to help us to trust Him and keep praising Him, even when very hard things happen to us.*

Life Application Questions

1. What is something about David's heart that God's people can ask God to do in their hearts? *To give them hearts that deeply love and trust God, all the time—even when very hard things happen to them.*
2. How can we become God's people? *By turning away from our sins and trusting in Jesus as our Savior.*

The Gospel

1. Who did David look forward in faith for God to send, as He promised in the Bible?

Jesus, to the promised son of David's that would come one day to save His people.

2. What is the good news of salvation through Jesus?

God is the good Creator and King of the world. He made people to worship Him and live by His good laws. But we are all sinners who have rebelled against Him. We all deserve death--God's just, eternal punishment for our sins. How terrible! But God has good news for us. In His great mercy, God sent His Son Jesus to earth to save sinners. Yes, Jesus, the perfect Son of God, left His home in heaven and became a man. He lived the perfect life that pleases God. (He's the only one who has ever done that!) He offered it up to God His Father as the perfect sacrifice for sins when He suffered and died on the cross. Then, on the third day, Jesus rose from the dead in victory. He had fully paid for the sins of God's people, so they wouldn't have to! Now all who turn away from their sins and trust in Jesus as their Savior will receive forgiveness of sins and eternal life with God. They will be His very own special people who will know Him and enjoy Him forever. We can be God's people, too, if we turn from our sins and trust in Jesus as our own Savior.

Game: Tell the Truth Basketball

Materials

3 baskets

A ball

Paper and marker

Masking Tape

20+ statements that are true, false or not in the story

Preparing the Game

1. Use the Story Review Questions to come up with 20+ statements about the story that are true, false, or not in the story.
2. Write the words “true”, “false”, and “not in the story” on separate pieces of paper and tape each to a basket. Use the masking tape to make a throw line. Place the baskets in a line, a reasonable throwing distance from the throwing line.

Playing the Game

Divide the children into two teams and have them line up at the throw line. Ask a child to come up to the throw line. Read him one of the statements and ask him to give his answer: true, false, not in the story by throwing the ball into the basket with the right answer card on it. If correct, then he scores 2 points for his team. If incorrect or accidentally goes into the wrong basket, the statement is read to the first person in line for the other team. If he tosses the ball into the right basket, then he scores one point for his team.

Play continues as statement cards last, or as time and attention span allow.

Non-competitive Option

Don't split into teams. Have the children take turns making baskets and answering the questions.

Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Quiz Questions

Have the children choose a few of the questions from the game to ask the parents/other children during TAKING IT TO OTHERS time. Help pre-readers by whispering the question in their ear and letting them ask it aloud to the parents/other children.

CASE REPLAY ACTIVITIES

P.1

Use this guide to review the Case Story and act it out for others to enjoy!

CASE REPLAY, JR: YOUNGEST CHILDREN

Description: The children will act out the story together, everyone doing the same action/sound effect at the same time. This activity is most suitable for kindergarteners.

Materials

The Case RePlay, Jr. script for younger children

Preparation

1. Read through the script and write in the blanks along the side possible actions/sound effects the children could do to act it out.

Instructions

1. Tell the children that they will be re-enacting the story together as you tell it.
2. As you read the script, lead the children in actions/sound effects to do with you.
3. If desired, you can read the script and stop at certain sentences and ask them what a good action/sound effect would be to act out what you just read.
4. Repeat the re-enactment one or two times more.

CASE REPLAY, SR: OLDER CHILDREN

Description: The children act out the story as a three-scene play. You will narrate it using the Case RePlay, Sr. script and they will act it out (no spoken words, for the most part), with each child assuming a different character's role. This activity is most suitable for first grade and up. You will review the story, then practice it a few times before performing it for others.

Materials

The Case RePlay, Sr. script

White board or other large format paper

Costumes and props

Preparation

1. Prepare for the play by choosing costumes and props for each character in the story. Decorate the area with any scenery props.
2. Write the words "Beginning," "Middle," "End" on a large piece of paper/whiteboard with plenty of space under each heading. You will use this paper to help the children think about the story as a three-scene play, as it is presented in the script.

Instructions

1. Tell the children that they will get to act out the story as a three-scene play, with a beginning, middle and end section. Tell them that before they can act it out, they need to think it out. as you narrate it with your script.
2. Take the children's answers as they recount the story, helping them put key incidents in the right order.
3. If desired, when they have filled in their Beginning, Middle, End, read through your whole (real) script, so they hear exactly what you will have them act out.
4. Then tell the children that it's time to practice acting out the story.
5. Assign parts to each child. If you are using costumes, do NOT give them out at this point. They will be a distraction.
6. Have all the children sit on the floor or in chairs on one side of the "stage," then call the characters up in place as their part in the story comes.
7. As you read the script, guide the children in where you want them to move or do to act it out.
8. After going through the whole script once, give out any costumes and props and act out the script once or twice more.

Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Re-enacting the Story

Read the script as the children act out together (younger) or assuming different roles (older) as the other children or the parents watch.

CASE REPLAY, JR--YOUNGER KIDS (KINDERGARTEN) P.2

Welcome to our play! The name of our story is called: The Case of the Man After God's Heart.

Our story takes place In the hills around Bethlehem, in Jerusalem, and in the wilderness of Judah. It takes place in Old Testament times, about 1000 years before Jesus was born.

And now we present: "The Case of the Man After God's Heart."

Scene 1:

God called David a man after His own heart because he had in his heart a great desire to know and love God. As a shepherd boy, David would think about God as he looked up at the stars at night, as he looked at the sky and the hills during the day, and as he took care of his sheep.

Actions:

Scene 2:

God made David king over all of Israel. He gave David a big family, a beautiful palace to live in, and lots of money. He gave David victory over all of Israel's enemies until they did not attack Israel anymore. All the people loved and respected David. David did not forget God when he received all these blessings. He assigned 12,000 priests to lead the people in worshipping God in the Temple, to sing praises to Him and to teach the people to praise Him, too.

Scene 3

David had hard times, too. Absalom, his son, tried to take over his kingdom and kill him. David had to flee Jerusalem to keep from being killed. People yelled names at him and even threw stones. David's heart did not grow hard towards God even then. He kept praising God. When David was old and about to die, his heart still loved God. He did not fear death but looked forward to worshipping God in His very presence.

Bible Truth Tie-In:

The Bible Truth we are learning is: **God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him.** David had a heart wanted to know and love God so much that God called him a man after His own heart. No matter what happened to David, he still loved God.

CASE REPLAY, SR--OLDER KIDS (1ST GRADE AND UP) P.3

Welcome to our play! The name of our story is called: The Case of the Man After God's Heart.

Our story takes place In the hills around Bethlehem, in Jerusalem, and in the wilderness of Judah. It takes place in Old Testament times, about 1000 years before Jesus was born.

The characters in our story are: David and his family, Sheep, People of Jerusalem, Enemies of Israel, Israelite soldiers, Absalom and his men; David's friends and enemies.

And now we present: "The Case of the Man After God's Heart."

Scene 1: (Beginning)

God called David a man after His own heart because he had in his heart a great desire to know and love God. As a shepherd boy, David would think about God as he looked up at the stars at night, as he looked at the sky and the hills during the day, and as he took care of his sheep.

Scene 2: (Middle)

God made David king over all of Israel. He gave David a big family, a beautiful palace to live in, and lots of money. He gave David victory over all of Israel's enemies until they did not attack Israel anymore. All the people loved and respected David. David did not forget God when he received all these blessings. He assigned 12,000 priests to lead the people in worshipping God in the Temple, to sing praises to Him and to teach the people to praise Him, too.

Scene 3: (End)

David had hard times, too. Absalom, his son, tried to take over his kingdom and kill him. David had to flee Jerusalem to keep from being killed. People yelled names at him and even threw stones. David's heart did not grow hard towards God even then. He kept praising God. When David was old and about to die, his heart still loved God. He did not fear death but looked forward to worshipping God in His very presence.

Bible Truth Tie-In:

The Bible Truth we are learning is: **God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him.** David had a heart wanted to know and love God so much that God called him a man after His own heart. No matter what happened to David, he still loved God.

David's Harp

Description

Children will make a simple harp with rubber band strings.

Materials

White foam core board (30"x40" is best value), enough to cut out 1 of Template #1 for each child
OR Sheets of corrugated cardboard, purchased from office supply or shipping company, etc. (or lots of old boxes) need enough for TWO 8 ½" by 11" sheets per child. (2 pieces of cardboard are required to make body of harp strong enough)

NOTE: Foam core makes a lot prettier harp to decorate!

Razor blade or craft knife

Pen

8-32 2" long bolts, 8 per child

Matching 8-32 nuts for bolts, 16 per child

Rubber bands of varying gauges, 4 per child (plus extra for breakages)

Decorating supplies, such as markers, crayons, sequins, glitter glue, foam shapes, etc.

Glue

Preparing the Craft

1. Using Template #1, cut one out of foam core OR two out of cardboard per child out of the cardboard, if possible lay lines of cardboard in the direction of the arrows on the template. This will make for a stronger harp. Mark the inside of each piece of cardboard with an "X."
2. Use the pin or craft knife to bore 8 holes in the foam core/cardboard, as indicated by black dots on Template #1. If using the cardboard, line up the two pieces of cardboard so that the holes go through the same place in each piece.
3. Lay out decorating supplies, glue, nuts and bolts. KEEP THE RUBBER BANDS TO DISTRIBUTE LATER

Making the Craft

1. Show the sample of the craft you have made.
2. Have children decorate one or both sides of their foam core harp shapes. If using the cardboard, the children will decorate one side of each piece of cardboard, leaving the inner sides (marked with an "X" blank.
3. Have the children attach one nut to each of the 8 bolts, winding them up the threads until they are about 1/4" from the head. Then have them stick the bolt down through each hole (head side sticking up on the same side of harp), then wind the other nut on the bolt until the foam core/cardboard is firmly sandwiched between them. If using cardboard instead of foam core, have the children put the inner two pieces together, line up the holes, then thread the bolt and attach it.

NOTE: You may want to attach the first nut to the bolt ahead of time for the children; OR for the youngest children, you may want to attach the bolts for them. Also, do not screw the bolts down so tightly that it squashes into the harp—this will weaken it.

4. Children can now attach their rubber bands. Have them place them between the nut and the head on one side of the harp and stretch them across to the corresponding bolt on the other side. Each side of each rubber band can be tuned to its own pitch. Simply wind each side (separately) around the bolt, until you get the pitch you want. Also, different gauges and lengths of rubber bands make different sounds. Have the kids experiment.

Making a Bible Truth Connection

Once the children have settled into their craft, use the Bible Truth- Craft Connection Sheet to lead discussion about the craft. Note that most of these questions echo the questions on the case board, providing a review of what the children learned earlier.

Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Craft Presentation

If you are presenting the craft to other children or parents the children can hold up their crafts (or your model craft) and read their Bible Truth Connection answers to explain the importance of the craft.

CASE CRAFT

Discussion Guide

Instructions:

As the children are settled into making their craft, ask them these questions to help them understand the craft's significance. Use the answers provided to guide the children's answers.

Discussion Questions

1. Where did David think about God?

Everywhere he went.

2. What about God did David think about? How did David use his harp to express what he thought about God? *How wonderful He is. He made up songs about God. He played his harp as he sang them.*

3. Why did David keep singing and playing his songs of praise to God when he went through hard times?

Because he loved God most of all. He knew that no matter what he went through, God always loved him and would take care of him.

4. What is Bible Truth that we are learning?

God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him.

5. What does our craft have to do with our Bible Truth: God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him?

God called David a man after His own heart because David sought to know and love Him, just as God created people to.

6. What can our craft help us remember?

God wants us to seek after Him and sing His praises no matter what we go through, just like David did.

TAKING IT TO OTHERS

Craft Presentation

Instructions:

Have children hold up your model craft/their crafts. Choose five children (or you say) the five sections below to explain the craft's importance.

Presentation:

1. Our craft is: David's Harp.

2. Everywhere he went, David sang and played praises about the wonderfulness of God on his harp because he loved God most of all. No matter what he went through he knew that God always loved him and would take care of him.

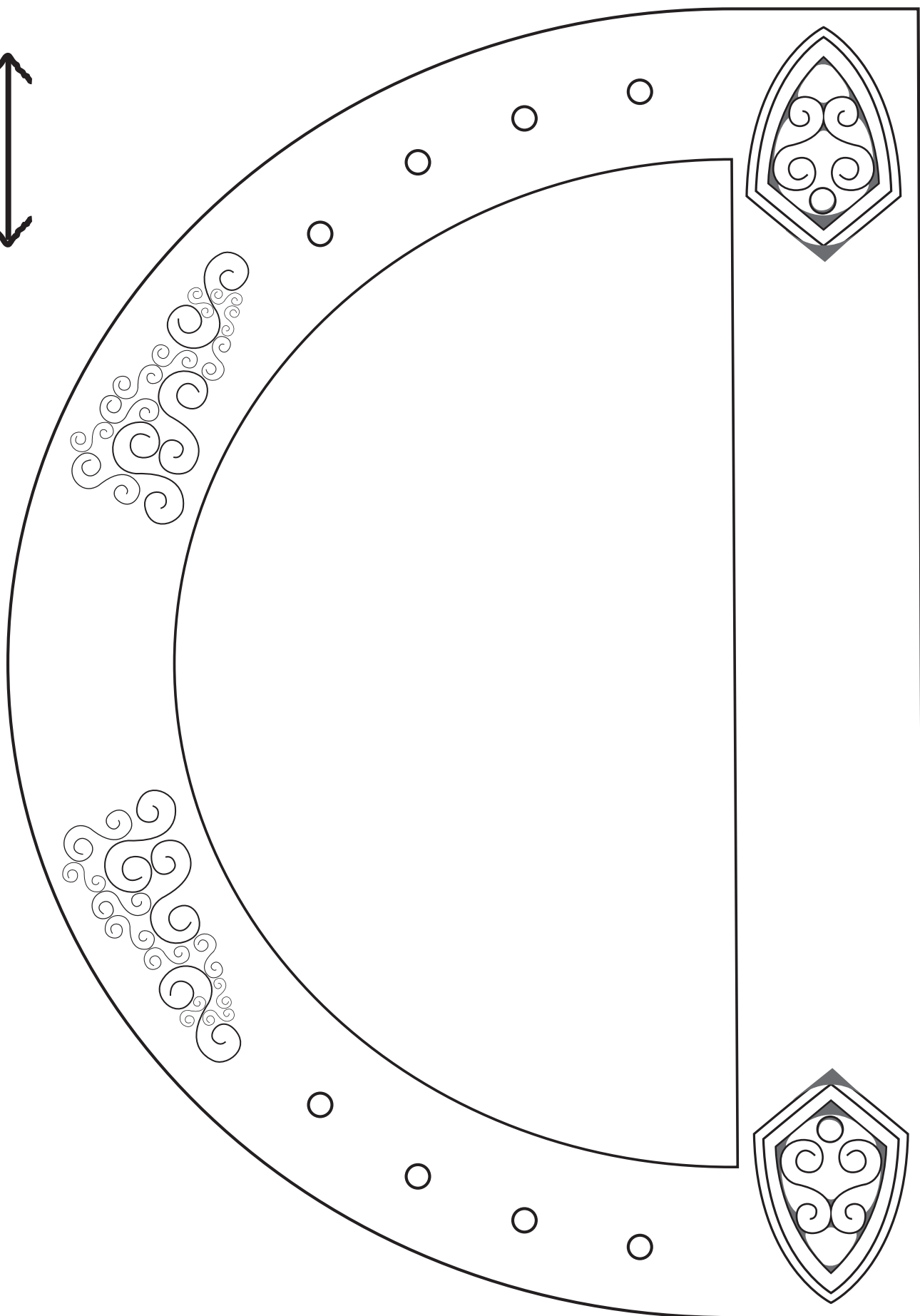
3. Our Bible Truth is: God Made Our Hearts to Know and Love Him.

4. God called David a man after His own heart because David sought to know and love Him, just as God created people to.

5. Our craft can help us remember that God wants us to seek after Him and sing His praises no matter what we go through, just like David did.

Note: Even non-readers can participate in presenting the craft, if you will whisper what they are to say in their ear and let them say it aloud for the others to hear.

direction of warp of cardboard



BEFORE CLASS:**1. PICK YOUR PERSON**

VIPPs can be anyone in your church! Typically, they fall into 6 categories: Church staff, Elders, Deacons/deaconesses, Special Volunteers (people who aren't paid, but spend a lot of time helping out in particular ways), Supported Workers (aka missionaries), and Church Members.

2. GATHER YOUR FACTS

Use the VIPP Information Sheet to write down the facts about your VIPP. The information on this worksheet is used in the VIPP activities, listed in the "Choose an Activity" section below.

DURING THE ACTIVITY:**1. INTRODUCE YOUR VIPP**

Introduce your VIPP to the children, using the VIPP Information Sheet. Fill in a set of VIPP Clue Cards with the information for your VIPP. If desired, you can even have the actual person come into class for the children to meet.

Need help describing what someone does for the church in a kid-friendly way? Check out the list of common VIPPs on the Praise Factory website in the PFI resources. There are lots of kid-friendly descriptions for common VIPP's, such as pastors, elders, deacons and a lot more.

2. PRAY!

Lead the children in praying for the VIPP. Ask the children if they would like to pray for one of the VIPPs prayer requests. Even non-readers can pray for the VIPP if you whisper the prayer request in their ear, then let them say it aloud. Never force a child to pray!

3. CHOOSE AN ACTIVITY

There are two activities you can use to help the children learn about the VIPP:

VIPP Clue Cards: These are nine coloring sheets in which children fill in the nine things they learn about the VIPP from the VIPP Information Sheet. Photocopy a set of each child. Use as few or as many of these Clue Cards as you desire. Clue Cards found at the back of this book.

VIPP Game: This is a game that uses a set of Clue Cards for one or two VIPPs.

Choose a VIPP and fill in his/her information on the VIPP Information Sheet. Fill in a set of VIPP Clue Cards with the information for your VIPP. Tell the children about the VIPP, having them fill in the VIPP Clue Cards with the key facts as they learn them. Write any words the children need to write on a white-board or other piece of paper so they can see how to spell them. Help younger children write these words on their clue cards. Ideas for how to tell the children about many common VIPPs are listed at praisefactory.org with the resources for this Bible Truth.

Optional TAKING IT TO OTHERS Activity: Introduce and Pray for the VIPP

If you are presenting the VIPP to other children or parents you can assign children to hold up the 10 clue cards and say what each card tells about the VIPP. (Or, you can have the children hold them up as you tell what each one means.) Then lead the children in praying for the VIPP.

Game: Crabbin' Around

Materials

Information Sheet for two VIPPs

2 Sets of Clue Cards

Tape

A Bag

Preparing the Game

1. Fill in one set of clue sheets for the VIPP you are using.
2. Put all the Clue Cards in a bag, except for the ones with the names and pictures of the VIPPs.
3. Tape the picture and name of each VIPP to the wall, about 3 feet from the ground.

Playing the Game

Reveal: Tell the children about the VIPPs, showing them your filled-in clue cards as you tell about them.

Review: Put the Clue Cards for both VIPPS put in one bag. Mix up. Have children sit down, with their legs in front of them and their hands propped behind them. Show them how to get in crab position and try moving around. (Moving on hands and feet, with front side facing up). Tell them that you will pull out a clue, tell them what it is and they are to crab-crawl their way to the picture of the person who it belongs to. Give them the answer after everyone has run to their guessed person. Continue until all clues have been used up.

VIPP INFORMATION SHEET

P.3

VIPP NAME:

WHAT VIPP LOOKS LIKE

Man or Woman? _____

Hair color? _____

Eye color? _____

FAVORITE ANIMAL

FAVORITE FOOD

FAVORITE FREE TIME ACTIVITY

WHAT VIPP DOES DURING WEEK

VIPP GROUP OF SERVICE:

Church Member

Deacon

Elder

Church Staff

Special Volunteer

Supported Worker
(Missionary)

3 WAYS VIPP SERVES CHURCH

3 WAYS TO PRAY FOR THE VIPP



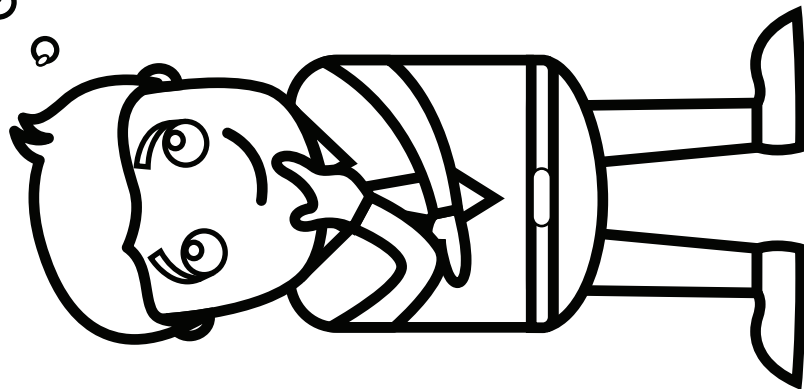
**VIPP (Very Important Prayer Person)
Coloring Sheets**



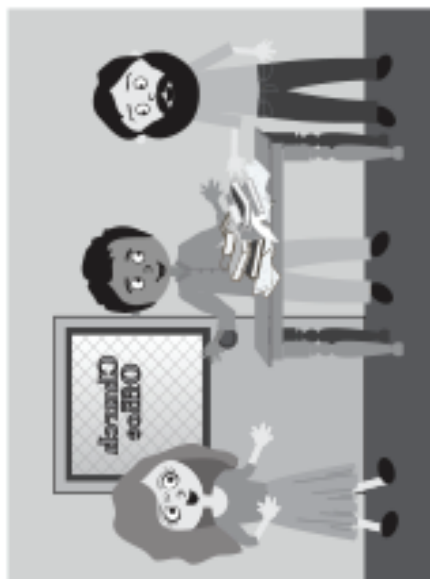
VIPP CLUE GUESS WHO

Can you guess who the
Very Important Prayer Person
is that we learned about and prayed for today?

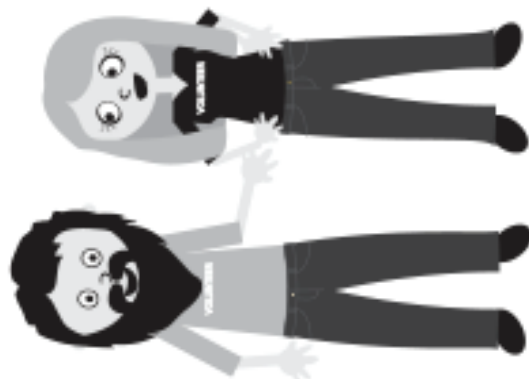
Look at my clues
and see if you know who it is!



What VIPP group am I in? Circle the right group.



Church Staff



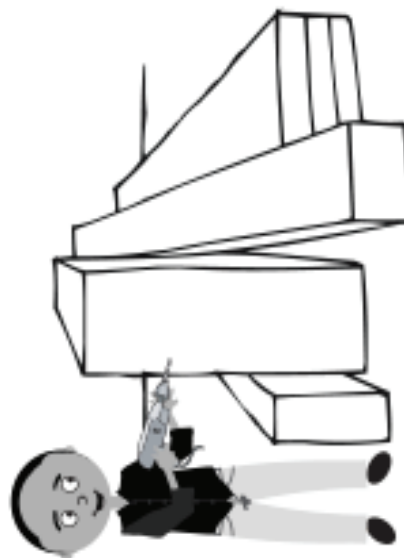
Special Volunteers



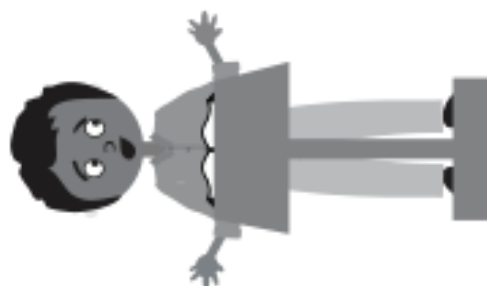
Supported Workers



Church Member

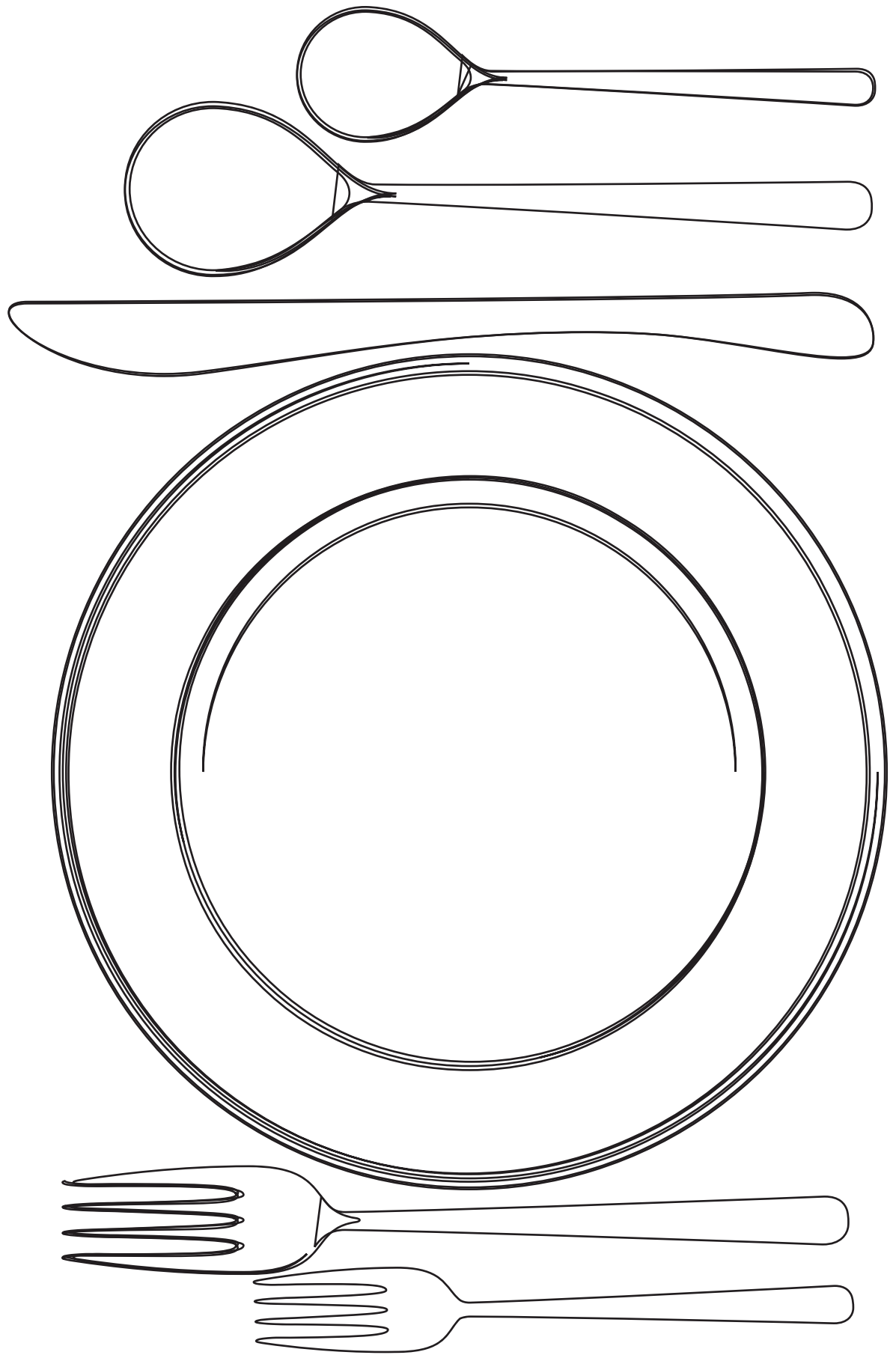


Deacons (Serve the physical needs of the church building and the church members)



Elders (Spiritual Teachers and Overseers of the Church)

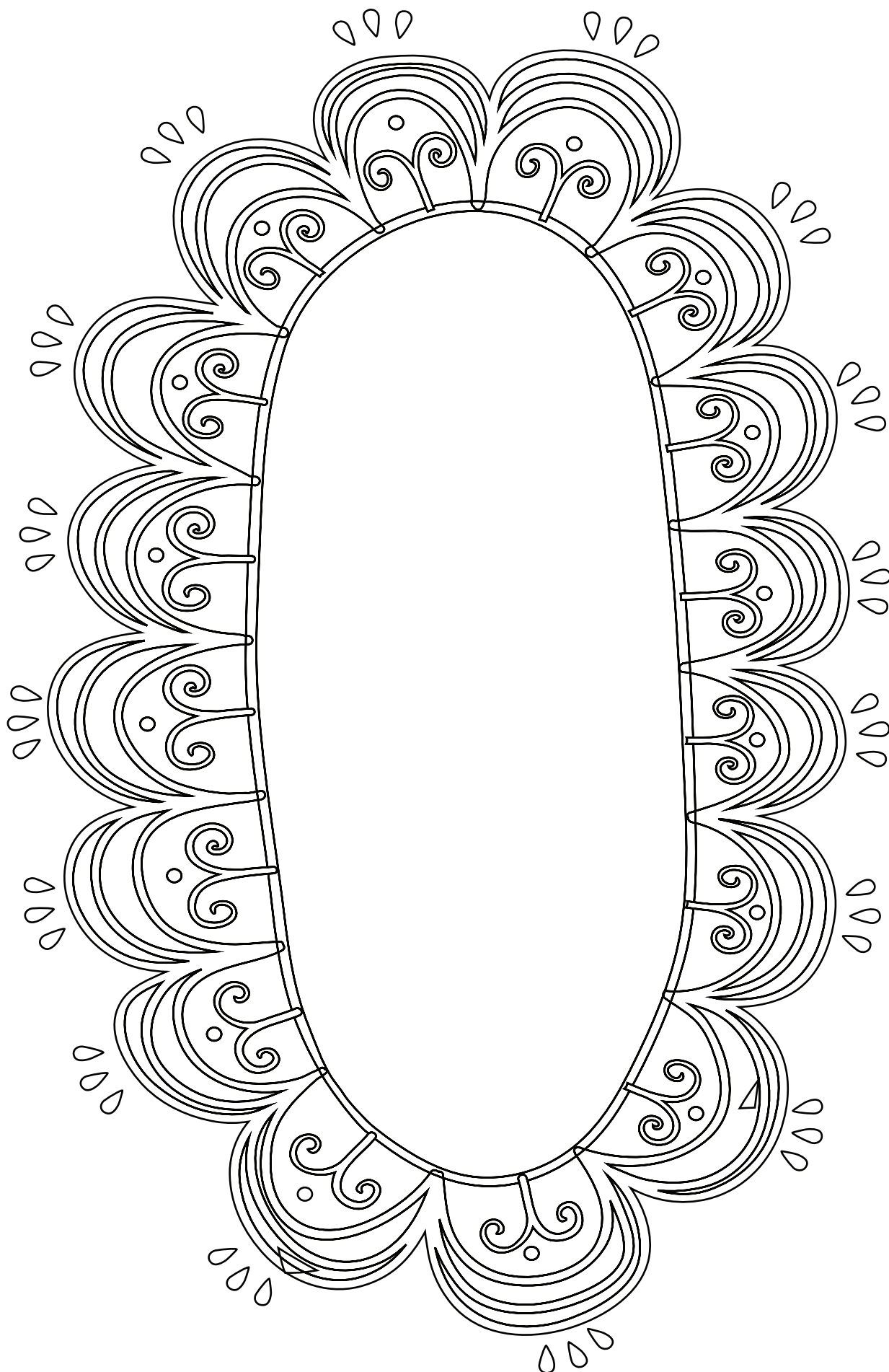
Our VIPP's Favorite Food



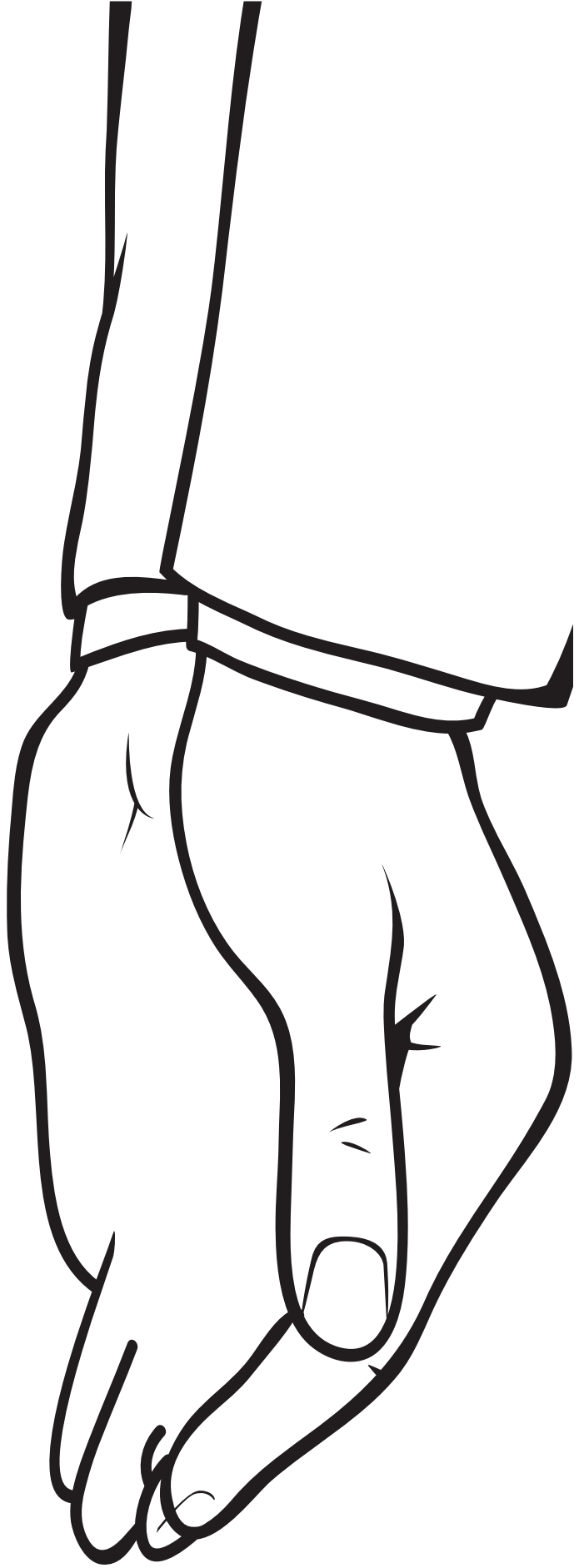
Our VIPP's Favorite Animal



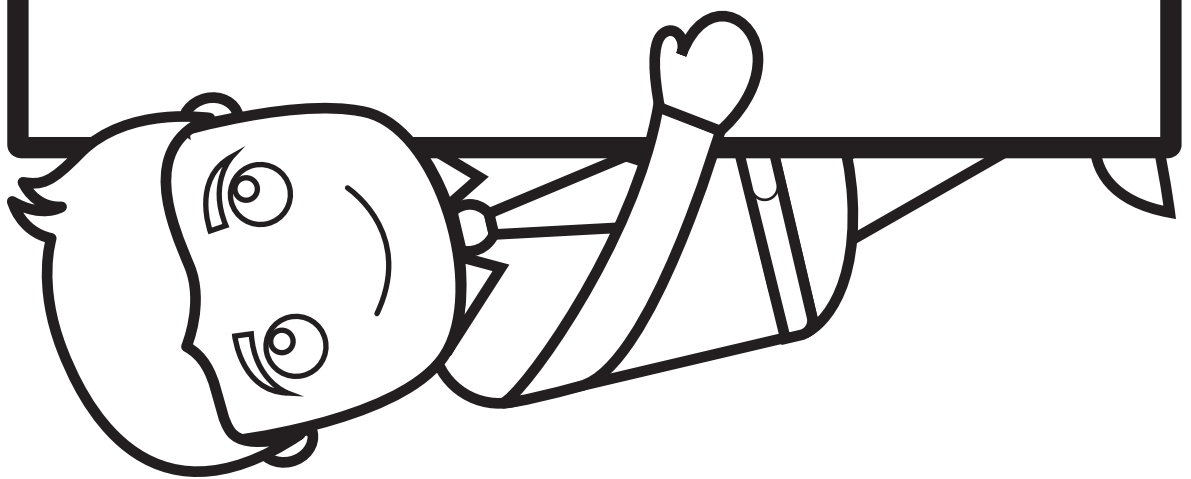
What our VIPP likes to do for fun



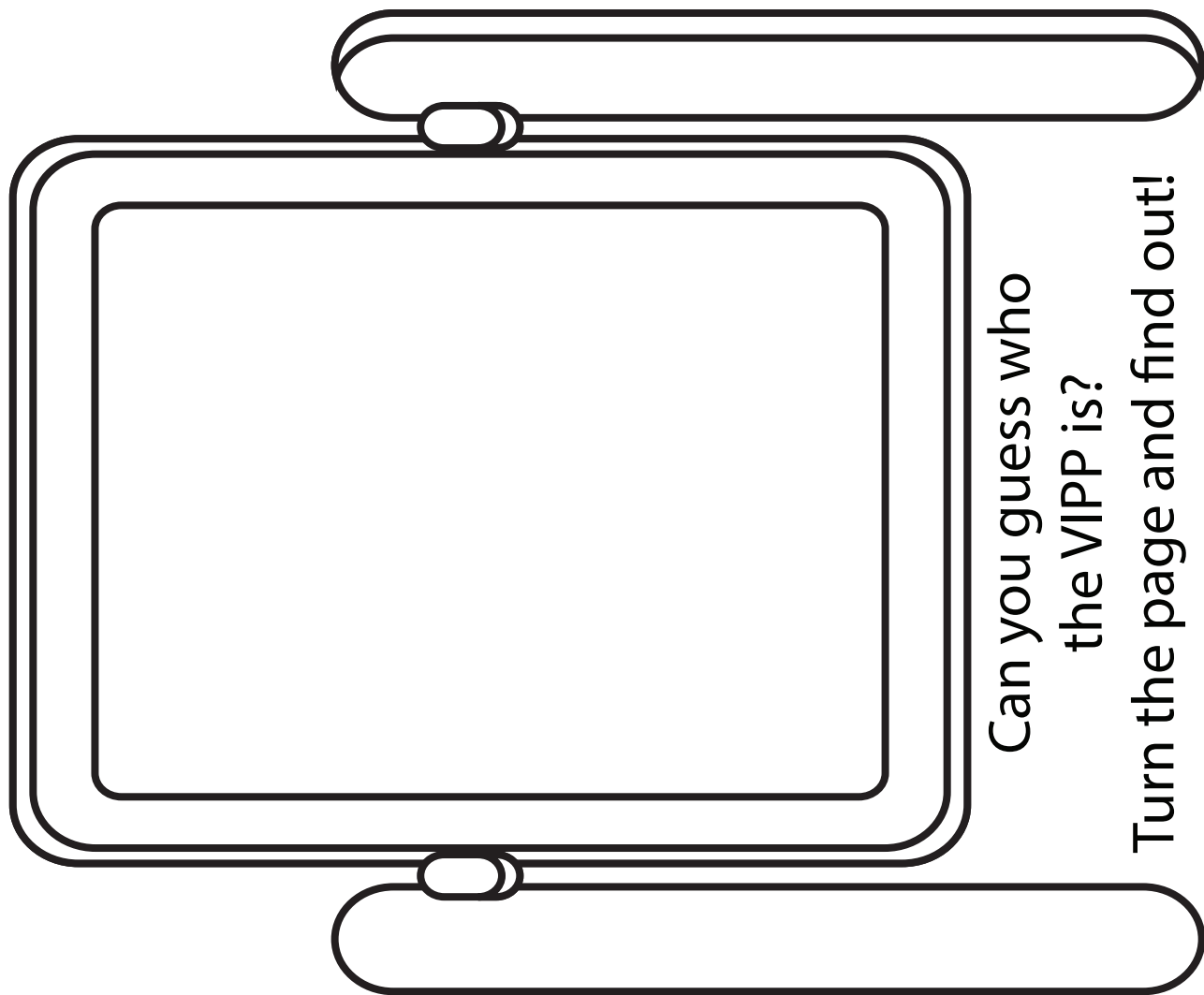
A Way This VIPP Serves (you can draw more on the back)



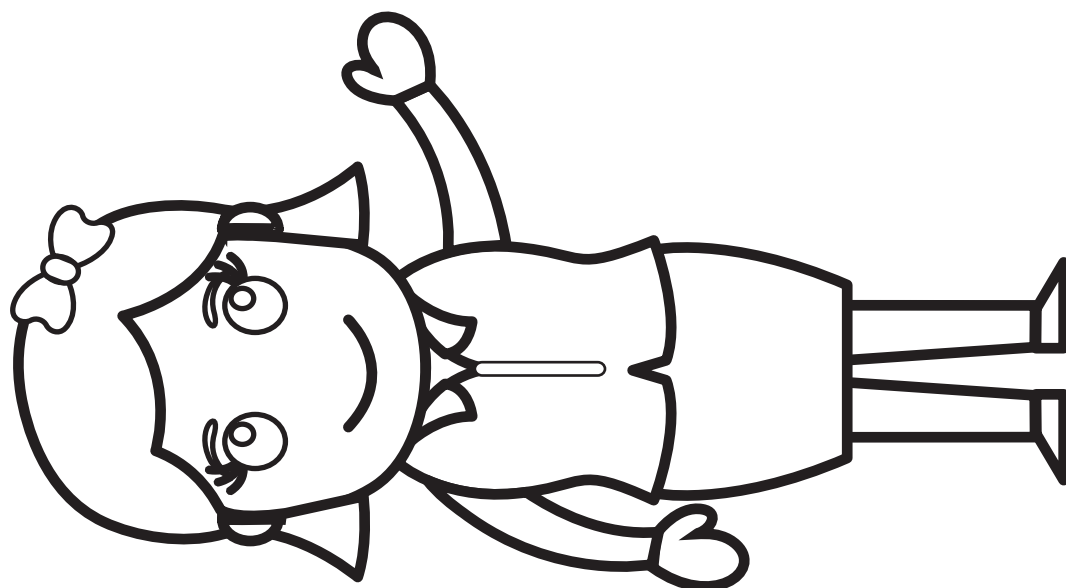
This VIPP's Job During the Week

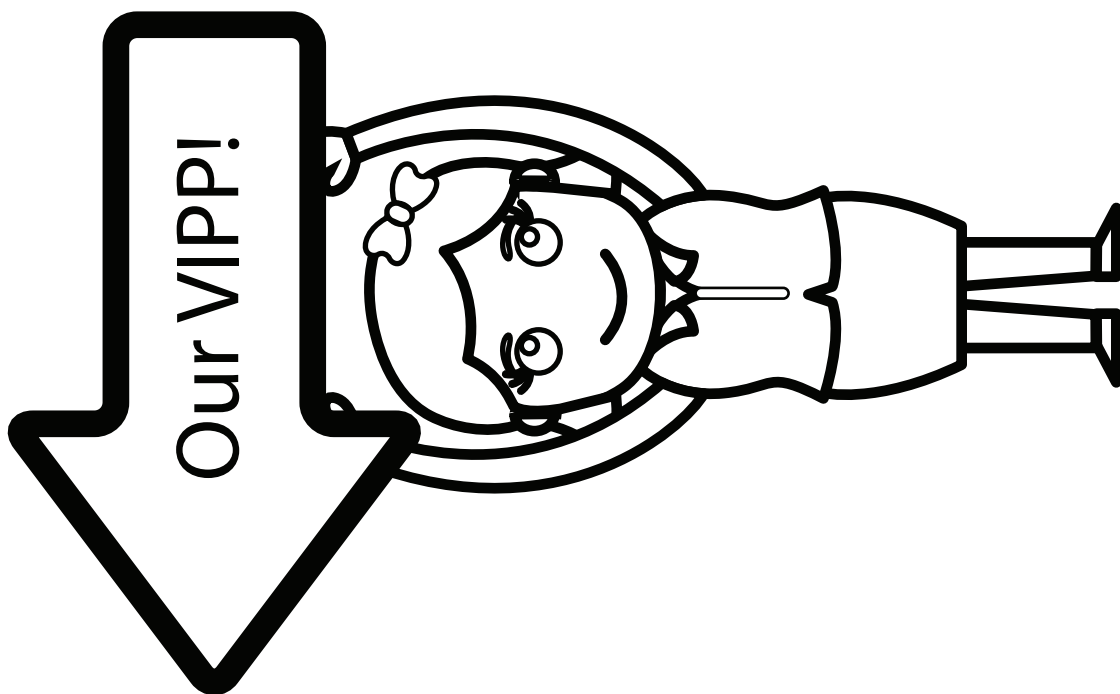


What Our VIPP Looks Like



Can you guess who
the VIPP is?
Turn the page and find out!





(Name)
(Serves the church as)

Let's Pray for Our VIPPI!

